

Switched-On Christian School

125 Alma Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH9 1DE

Inspection dates

19 July 2017

Overall outcome

The school meets all of the independent school standards that were checked during this inspection

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b), 15, 32(1) and 32(1)(c)

- At the time of the previous progress monitoring inspection in April 2017, the school was not maintaining an admission register in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. In particular, the school's procedures relating to informing the local authority about additions to, or deletions from, the admission register were lax. This put pupils at risk.
- Since then, the proprietors have redesigned the way they are keeping their admission register, using a new electronic template. The school now complies with the requirements of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006.
- The proprietors now have a much better understanding of the requirements regarding informing the local authority of changes to the admission register. Examples of communications with the local authority show that school leaders are putting their improved understanding into practice effectively.
- The school's safeguarding policy follows the guidance provided by the Secretary of State and is available on the school's website.
- The standards in these paragraphs are met.

Paragraph 11, 12, 16, 16(a) and 16(b)

- As part of the progress monitoring inspection, the Department for Education commissioned Ofsted to carry out a material change inspection. The school is proposing to move to larger premises, which are part of a nearby language college.
- With regard to health and safety, the school will fall under the language college's procedures. For example, all electrical equipment in the proposed premises has been subject to portable appliance testing (PAT) by contractors employed by the language college. These tests are recent and equipment is appropriately labelled. In addition, the school has drawn up its own health and safety policy in relation to the new premises.

- The proprietor has also produced specific risk assessments for the new premises and their use. In particular, leaders have carried out a risk assessment for movement around the school, in the context of its operation within a larger educational organisation. Potential risks are identified on this assessment and appropriate actions are identified to mitigate them.
- With regard to compliance with the relevant fire regulations, the school will be part of the language college's fire procedures. All rooms have fire notices with clear exit routes marked on them. Fire exits and routes to them are clearly identified by appropriate signs on walls, doors and windows. The fire alarm and fire extinguishers are regularly checked and serviced by an external contractor. The alarm is tested regularly, as is the emergency lighting.
- The standards in these paragraphs are likely to be met if the material change is implemented.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 23(1), 23(1)(a), 23(1)(b) and 23(1)(c)

- The new premises provide separate toilet facilities for boys and girls, which include lockable cubicles. Washing facilities in the toilets are suitable. The school will continue to deliver its physical education lessons at nearby leisure centres, where showers are available.

Paragraph 24(1), 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b) and 24(2)

- The new premises have a room with plumbed-in washing facilities that will be used as a medical room. This room is near to the toilets.

Paragraph 25, 26, 27, 27(a) and 27(b)

- The proposed new premises are very well maintained by the landlord. They are already operating as classrooms and contain appropriate equipment, such as whiteboards, projectors and speakers. In these respects, the new premises represent a marked improvement on the school's current location.
- Acoustic and lighting conditions are suitable for the purpose of delivering education and safe movement around the premises. External lighting is in place at the school's main entrance.

Paragraph 28(1), 28(1)(a), 28(1)(b), 28(1)(c), 28(1)(d), 28(2), (28(2)(a) and 28(2)(b)

- Suitable drinking water facilities will be supplied. Signage indicating whether water is suitable for drinking is in place. Toilet and washing facilities have adequate supplies of hot and cold water and these do not pose a scalding risk.

Paragraph 29(1), 29(1)(a) and 29(1)(b)

- The proposed new premises have suitable outdoor space for children to play in during the school day. This is partially covered, so it is still usable should the weather be inclement.
- The outdoor space is suitable for physical education lessons, although the school intends to continue using local leisure centres for its physical education and games curriculum.
- The standards in this part are likely to be met if the material change is implemented.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)

- At the time of the progress monitoring inspection in April 2017, the school had not ensured that all the independent school standards were met.
- School leaders have now taken action to ensure that all previously unmet standards are now met. In addition, standards checked as part of the material change inspection are also likely to be met.
- As a consequence, the standard in part 8 is now met.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school meets the requirements of the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements that were checked during this inspection. This included the standards and requirements that the school was judged to not comply with at the previous inspection. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

The school now meets the following independent school standards

- The proprietor ensures that arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State (paragraph 7, 7(a) and 7(b)).
- The proprietor ensures that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (paragraph 15).
- The proprietor ensures that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently; fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and actively promote the well-being of pupils (paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)).

School details

Unique reference number	138249
DfE registration number	837/6008
Inspection number	10039732

This inspection was carried out under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's suitability for continued registration as an independent school.

Type of school	Independent Christian school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	3 to 18
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	9
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	0
Number of part-time pupils	1
Proprietor	Mrs Cheryl Hill
Headteacher	Mrs Cheryl Hill
Annual fees (day pupils)	£3,600
Telephone number	01202 859421
Website	www.bournemouthchristianschool.co.uk
Email address	switchedonchristianschool@gmail.com
Date of previous standard inspection	15–17 November 2016

Information about this school

- Switched-On Christian School is a small faith school. It is run by Switched-On Education Limited, whose owner acts as the proprietor of the school.
- The date of the school's previous standard inspection was 15–17 November 2016. It also received a progress monitoring inspection on 5 April 2017.
- The school opened in 2012 and moved to its current premises, which it leases from Winton Methodist Church, in 2015. From 1 September 2017, the school proposes to occupy buildings leased from a language school, Anglo-Continental, 29–35 Wimborne Road, Bournemouth BH2 6NA.
- The school uses no alternative provision.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. The purpose of the inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the independent school standards and other requirements that it was judged to not comply with at its previous inspection.
- This was the school's second progress monitoring inspection. After the first progress monitoring inspection, the Department of Education (DfE) required the school to produce an action plan, which was accepted by the DfE in June 2017.
- In addition to the progress monitoring inspection, the DfE requested that a material change inspection in relation to a change of premises was also carried out.
- After consultations between Ofsted and the DfE, the inspection was conducted with one day's notice in order to facilitate the associated material change inspection.
- The inspector examined the school's admission register and records of its communications with the local authority. He held discussions with the proprietors and met representatives of the language college, part of which premises the school proposes to occupy from 1 September 2017. The inspector visited the proposed new premises and examined documents relating to health and safety, fire regulations and risk assessment.

Inspection team

Stephen Lee, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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