

# Advice note for a material change inspection

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School name	Switched-On Christian School
DfE registration number	837/6008
Unique reference number (URN)	138249
Inspection number	10008328
Inspection date	8 December 2015
Lead inspector	Steffi Penny HMI



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## Information about the inspection

- This inspection was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008.<sup>1</sup>
- This school's first full Ofsted inspection took place in May 2013, when a material change was recommended for an extension of the age range to include 17- and 18-year-old pupils.
- The material change requested on this occasion is to reduce the maximum number of pupils on roll to 30 and for the age range of pupils to cover ages five to 18. The school has also changed premises. The Department for Education requested the inspector to consider Parts 3, 4, 5 and 8 of the independent school standards.
- Discussions were held with the proprietor, headteacher, teacher, pupils and a member of staff from the school that shares the same premises. The building, school documents and records were scrutinised for their compliance with the independent school standards.

## Information about the school

- Switched-On Christian School was registered as an independent day school for 50 pupils aged three to 16 years of age in June 2012, and opened in September 2012. It is located in Bournemouth.
- There are currently 19 pupils on roll, aged six to 15 years. There is one pupil with a statement of special educational needs. The school does not use any alternative or additional provision for its pupils.
- The school has a Christian ethos and aims to 'provide a welcoming, caring, supportive and secure environment in which Christian values are central to the ethos of the school and its community'. It uses a curriculum specifically devised for Christian faith schools.

## Purpose of the inspection

- The school requested a material change as it has had to move premises at short notice. As the new premises are smaller than the previous premises, the school no longer wants to be registered for children under five and requested that the number on roll be reduced from 50 to 30 pupils.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/contents)

## Compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014<sup>2</sup>

### Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- Paragraphs, 7, 7(a), 7(b), 11, 15, 16, 16(a) and 16(b) are not met.
- The attendance register has gaps in the recording for several morning and afternoon sessions. There are missing references in the admissions register with regard to the previous schools that pupils have attended.
- Risk assessments are in place for fire risks, for taking pupils out on trips and for undertaking external activities. However these risk assessments are not sufficiently detailed.
- There are no risk assessments relating to the pupils' movement around the building or the school's general use of the building. Currently, pupils are kept safe when in class when the internal doors to the other parts of the building are kept locked. However, the contingency arrangements for when pupils use other parts of the building, such as the hall, are not identified.
- The behaviour policy is compliant with the regulations; it is understood by all and is implemented effectively. Although rarely needed, a record is kept of sanctions imposed on pupils for serious misbehaviour.
- The anti-bullying strategy is very effective as incidents of bullying are rare.
- The proprietor ensures that the school complies with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- Staff are suitably deployed to ensure the supervision of pupils.
- Staff are trained appropriately in first aid. First aid is administered in a timely manner and incidents are recorded well.

In order to meet the requirements in full, the school should:

ensure that -	7
arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and	7(a)
such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.	7(b)
ensure that relevant health and safety laws are complied with by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written health and safety policy.	11
ensure that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006	15
ensure that-	16

<sup>2</sup> [www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/3283/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/3283/contents/made)

the welfare of pupils at the school is safeguarded and promoted by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written risk assessment policy; and	16(a)
appropriate action is taken to reduce risks that are identified.	16(b)

#### **Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors**

- All paragraphs and sub-paragraphs of this part of the independent school standards are met.
- All of the appropriate checks have been undertaken to ensure the suitability of staff to work with children. The required information is held on the single central register of staff appointments.

#### **Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools**

- All paragraphs and sub-paragraphs of this part of the independent school standards are met with the exception of paragraph 25. Paragraph 25 is not met because the hot water systems in the downstairs lavatories, and associated electrical switches, have the potential to cause an electric shock if the switches are touched with wet fingers.
- There is an appropriate number of toilet and washing facilities. These are separated by gender for pupils and staff. Staff have separate facilities to pupils.
- Suitable accommodation is available for the medical treatment and short-term care of pupils.
- The school uses local civic amenities for sports and for pupils' recreation. These amenities are very close to the school, and are of good quality with showers available.
- Drinking water is clearly identified and freely available.
- Rooms are appropriately furnished and clean. Heating, lighting and acoustic conditions are appropriate. The sizes of rooms are suitable for the activities that take place in them.

In order to meet the requirements in full, the school should:

ensure that the school premises, and the accommodation and facilities provided therein, are maintained to a standard such that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils are ensured.	25
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#### **Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools**

- The designated person responsible for safeguarding, and staff, have undertaken appropriate training and understand the document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', July 2015. However, the school records do not clearly show that all staff have read Part 1 of that document, as is required. The school does not keep

clear or detailed enough records on the internal safeguarding training that staff have undertaken.

- The proprietor and governing body have not ensured that all of the welfare, health and safety requirements are met. Consequently, the independent school standards relating to the quality of leadership and management are not met. This means that the leadership of the school is inadequate.
- The proprietor is now working with another school which shares the same building, and which was previously judged as outstanding, to rectify the standards that have not been met and to undertake joint training for staff.

In order to meet the requirements in full, the school should:

ensure that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school -	34(1)
demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently;	34(1)(a)
fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and	34(1)(b)
actively promote the well-being of pupils.	34(1)(c)

## Advice to the registration authority for independent schools

<b>Overall outcome</b>	The school is unlikely to meet the relevant independent school standards if the material changes relating to the school provision are implemented
<b>Recommended number of day pupils</b>	30
<b>Recommended age range</b>	5 to 18
<b>Recommended gender of pupils</b>	Mixed
<b>Recommended type of special educational needs</b>	None