

Date Valley School

Mitcham Court, Cricket Green, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 4LB

Inspection date

16 March 2016

Overall outcome

Independent school standards met

Context of the inspection

- This inspection was undertaken at the request of the registration authority for independent schools in order to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan.
- This was the first progress monitoring inspection following the standard inspection conducted by Bridge Schools Inspectorate in July 2015.
- Following the previous inspection, the Department for Education required the school to submit an action plan detailing how it would tackle the unmet independent school standard identified. The action plan was accepted by the Department for Education on 26 January 2016.
- This inspection was conducted without notice.
- During this inspection, meetings were held with senior leaders, a group of staff and a group of pupils. The inspector scrutinised a range of documentation including the behaviour policy, sanctions book and information about pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. She also made short visits to lessons to observe behaviour in class and to speak informally with pupils. The inspector observed behaviour around school and during breaktimes.

Main findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- At the time of the previous inspection the school's behaviour policy was not implemented effectively. Leaders have ensured that this requirement is now met.
- In September 2015 leaders implemented their action plan by introducing a new behaviour management system across the whole school. This system includes rewards for positive behaviour. Appropriate sanctions are used when behaviour is unacceptable. The system is consistently applied by all members of staff. As a result, behaviour has significantly improved.
- Members of staff were well prepared for the introduction of the new system through training events which took place prior to its implementation. Since the system has been introduced, members of staff have adapted it to ensure that older pupils are aware of more subtle behaviours that are unacceptable. These include negative body language, such as shrugging or eye-rolling when asked by adults to obey an instruction.
- Pupils understand how the new system works. They are clear about exactly what behaviour is acceptable and what is not. They appreciate the rewards that good behaviour brings. Older pupils can identify improvements in their own behaviour as well as that of younger ones.
- During this inspection pupils moved safely and sensibly around the school. They played well together in the playground. Pupils responded well to requests from adults or reminders to behave appropriately.
- Leaders maintain detailed records of any incidents of misbehaviour. They record what happened, and what action was taken as a result. Pupils told the inspector that if they misbehave on three occasions, or once if the matter is serious, then their parents will be called to meet with the headteacher. They recognise this as a serious consequence that they wish to avoid.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school meets The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and associated requirements.

Inspection team

Gaynor Roberts, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- Date Valley is a primary school with an Islamic ethos. The school aims to 'work with parents to nurture the Islamic identities of all our children, preparing them to become confident Muslims, valuable to the wider community'.
- The school is located in Mitcham, Surrey and caters for the needs of 177 pupils. A very small proportion of pupils have special educational needs or disability and only a few are supported by an education, health and care plan or statement of educational needs.
- Within the early years provision, the school adopts some principles from the Montessori approach to education.
- The school was previously inspected by the Bridge Schools Inspectorate. The most recent standard inspection took place in July 2015 when the school was judged to provide a good standard of education.

School details

Unique reference number	109774
Inspection number	10012932
DfE registration number	315/6588

This inspection was conducted 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.

Type of school	Islamic faith school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	3–11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	177
Number of part-time pupils	41
Proprietor	Date Valley School Trust
Chair	Mr Salman Naveed Khan
Headteacher	Mrs Razina Karim
Date of previous school inspection	6–9 July 2015
Annual fees (day pupils)	£3,870–£6,078
Telephone number	020 8648 4647
Email address	schoolmanager@datevalley.org

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