

Instituto Espanol Canada Blanch

317 Portobello Road, London W10 5SZ

Inspection dates

5 February 2019

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

Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b), 32(1), 32(1)(c), 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)

- At the previous inspection, the school's approach to keeping pupils safe was judged to be ineffective. This was because leaders did not have a clear understanding of the latest statutory safeguarding legislation, staff training was weak and the procedures for whistleblowing were unclear. Inspectors also found some students in the sixth form were not prepared well enough, such as knowing about the risks related to radicalisation and gang affiliation, to keep themselves safe.
- This inspection found leaders to have fully implemented their suitable action plan; they have transformed the school's culture of safeguarding.
- All staff, including designated leaders, have completed the required level of training, including in relation to radicalisation, child sexual and criminal exploitation, and children missing education. Staff access very regular update training, and not only read the latest statutory guidance and the school's own policies and procedures, but are compelled to study them closely and are quizzed on their understanding.
- Pupils are now taught, through 'values' lessons, assemblies and events, such as safer internet day which coincided with this inspection, how to keep themselves safe. Sixth-form students spoke confidently about the school's positive work to prepare them to understand a range of risks, such as carrying knives, gang membership and sexting.
- The school's procedures for whistleblowing, monitoring absence and reporting concerns are all suitable and commonly understood across the school.
- The school's child protection policy and procedures are compliant with the latest statutory guidance, and published on the school's website.
- As a result of leaders' effective work, all the previously unmet independent school standards (listed above and in full on page 3) are now met.

Statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

- At the previous inspection, in addition to the overall safeguarding concerns raised, leaders had not ensured that staff working with children in the unregistered early years provision had been trained in paediatric first aid.
- This inspection confirmed that seven staff have now been appropriately trained in paediatric first aid. Considering this and the improvements in safeguarding practice across the school, the safeguarding and welfare requirements for children in the early years are now met.
- Leaders requested to make a material change to their registration agreement in July 2018. They wished to extend their age range from 5 to 19 to 3 to 19. However, in light of the previous inspection's findings, this change was not accepted.
- In light of this inspection's findings, it would now be appropriate to extend the school's age range to 3 to 19 because the safeguarding and welfare requirements checked during this inspection are now met.
- However, the school's operation of early years provision is in accordance with the Spanish education system, and not the learning and development requirements of the British early years foundation stage. If the registration authority accepts a change in age range, leaders intend to apply for an exemption to the learning and development requirements.

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

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- 7 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that–
 - 7(a) arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and
 - 7(b) such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

School details

Unique reference number	100532
DfE registration number	207/6305
Inspection number	10092848

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	Spanish day school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	5 to 19
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	476
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	44
Number of part-time pupils	None
Proprietor	Spanish Government
Chair	Education Counsellor of the Spanish Embassy
Headteacher	Carmen Pinilla Padilla
Annual fees (day pupils)	Spanish nationals £340. Non-Spanish nationals £3,285 to £4,075
Telephone number	020 8969 2664
Website	http://www.educacion.gob.es/exterior/centros/canadablanch/es/home/index.shtml
Email address	canada.blanch.uk@educacion.gob.es
Date of previous standard inspection	3–5 July 2018

Information about this school

- Instituto Espanol Canada Blanch is a mixed, independent day school, which is owned by the Spanish Government and managed by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Vocational Training.
- Pupils are either bilingual in English and Spanish, multilingual or at various stages of

learning English or Spanish as an additional language.

- The majority of teachers are from Spain and are appointed for up to six years on secondments by the Spanish Government.
- The Education Counsellor of the Spanish Embassy represents the proprietor (the Spanish government).
- The school continues to admit pupils who are three and four years old, and therefore below the registered age range of five years old.
- The school's previous standard inspection took place in July 2018, when its overall effectiveness was judged to be inadequate.
- The Spanish inspectorate also inspects the school. It last inspected the school in November 2017.
- The school makes no use of 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 first progress monitoring inspection since its previous full standard inspection in July 2018. It was conducted without notice.
- Following the July 2018 inspection, the school submitted an action plan. It was judged to be acceptable by Ofsted and was accepted by the Department for Education.
- This inspection focused on the school's compliance with particular requirements in Parts 3 and 8 of the independent school standards and the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the early years foundation stage.
- The inspector held discussions with leaders, including the headteacher, designated safeguarding leader, a group of teachers and a group of students in the sixth form. He also toured the premises, visited all classrooms and spoke with a senior safeguarding professional in the local authority by telephone.
- The inspector scrutinised a range of safeguarding documentation, including policies, logs, minutes of meetings, information about staff training and teaching resources.
- The inspection took account of the 37 recent responses to Ofsted's online survey, Parent View.
- The inspector was accompanied by an interpreter for the majority of the inspection.

Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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