



**ISI** Independent  
Schools  
Inspectorate

**REGULATORY COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

**ST DUNSTAN'S COLLEGE**

**MARCH 2017**



## School's details

<b>School</b>	St Dunstan's College			
<b>DfE Number</b>	209/6032			
<b>Registered charity number</b>	312747			
<b>Address</b>	Stanstead Road Catford London SE6 4TY			
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8516 7200			
<b>Email address</b>	info@sdmail.org.uk			
<b>Headmaster</b>	Mr Nicholas Hewlett			
<b>Proprietor Chair of governors</b>	Sir Paul Judge			
<b>Age range</b>	3 to 18			
<b>Number of pupils on roll</b>	905			
	<b>Boys</b>	523	<b>Girls</b>	382
	<b>EYFS</b>	54	<b>Juniors</b>	253
	<b>Seniors</b>	453	<b>Sixth Form</b>	145
<b>Pupils' ability</b>	Nationally standardised test data provided by the school indicate that the ability of the pupils in the senior school and the sixth form is above average.			
<b>Pupils' needs</b>	The number of pupils requiring support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is 107. They require support with a range of learning difficulties. One pupil has a statement of special educational needs or an education, health and care (EHC) plan and requires support with specific learning difficulties. There are 60 pupils who have English as an additional language (EAL), 36 of whom receive support.			
<b>History of the school</b>	The history of St Dunstan's College can be traced back to 1408. The college moved to its current location in 1888 and retains strong links with the City of London, where it originated.			
<b>Ownership and governing structure</b>	The college is overseen by the trustees of St Dunstan's Educational Foundation, all of whom are			

---

	governors.
<b>School structure</b>	The junior school consists of Pre-Prep, which caters for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and pupils in Year 1 and Year 2, and Prep, which caters for pupils in Year 3 to Year 6. The senior school caters for pupils in Year 7 to Year 11, while the sixth form caters for pupils in Year 12 and Year 13.
<b>Other useful information</b>	The school does not cater for boarders. The school is located on one site.
<b>Inspection dates</b>	15 to 16 March 2017

---

## PREFACE

The registration authority for independent schools is the Department for Education (DfE), which directs inspection according to a specified frequency or at any time where the DfE has particular concerns about a school. The Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) is the body approved by the Secretary of State for the purpose of inspecting schools which are, or whose heads are, in membership of the associations which form the Independent Schools Council (ISC) and reporting on the extent to which they meet the Independent School Standards (“the standards”) in the Schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014. Accordingly, inspection records whether the school meets each of these standards, which are arranged in eight Parts, each of which is divided into separate paragraphs. The inspection of schools that have early years settings not requiring registration similarly records whether the school complies with key provisions of the Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework, and for registered settings the full range of the Early Years Foundation Stage provisions is considered. Additionally, the inspection reports on the school’s accessibility plan under Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 and the ban on corporal punishment under section 548 of the Education Act 1996. It comments on the progress made by the school in meeting the compliance action points set out in the school’s most recent statutory inspection.

All association independent schools will have an inspection within three years from April 2016, in accordance with the Framework. The inspection may be of COMPLIANCE ONLY or of EDUCATIONAL QUALITY AND COMPLIANCE depending on a number of factors, including findings from their most recent inspection. Schools judged not to meet the standards following their inspection may also be subject to a progress monitoring visit before their next routine inspection. The progress monitoring visit will judge whether the school has taken the necessary action to meet any unmet standards and any qualitative concerns identified at their previous inspection.

**This is a COMPLIANCE ONLY inspection and as such reports only on the school’s compliance with the standards.** The standards represent minimum requirements and judgements are given either as **met** or as **not met**. All schools are required to meet all the standards applicable to them. Where the minimum requirements are not met, this is clearly indicated in the relevant section of the report and the school is required to take the actions specified.

The inspection does not include matters that are outside of the regulatory framework described above, such as:

- (i) the school’s aims;
- (ii) an exhaustive health and safety audit;
- (iii) compliance with data protection requirements;
- (iv) an in-depth examination of the structural condition of the school, its services or other physical features;
- (v) contractual arrangements with parents;
- (vi) an investigation of the financial viability of the school or its accounting procedures.

Where necessary, National Curriculum nomenclature is used to refer to year groups. Links to the full regulations and requirements can be found here: [The Independent School Standards Regulations](#), [Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework](#).

## SUMMARY EVALUATION

**The school does not meet all of the required standards in the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, relevant requirements of the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, and associated requirements, and should take immediate action to remedy deficiencies as detailed below.**

### PART 1

#### Quality of education provided

In the junior school, the school uses its own framework to determine attainment, instead of the national framework.

At GCSE in the years 2013 to 2015, performance has been above the national average for maintained schools. Results at IGCSE in the years 2013 to 2015 have been higher than worldwide norms.

In the sixth form, A-level results in the years 2013 to 2015 have been above the national average for sixth formers in maintained schools.

The curriculum is documented, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work for the pupils and covers the required breadth of material. The teaching enables pupils to make good progress, encompasses effective behaviour management and is supported by suitable resources. A suitable framework for the assessment of pupils' performance is in place.

**The standards relating to the quality of education [paragraphs 1–4] are met.**

### PART 2

#### Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

Principles and values are actively promoted which facilitate the personal development of pupils as responsible, tolerant, law-abiding citizens.

**The standard relating to spiritual, moral, social and cultural development [paragraph 5] is met.**

### PART 3

#### Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Good behaviour is promoted; bullying is prevented so far as reasonably practicable; health and safety requirements are met, including those relating to fire safety; provision is made for first aid. Pupils are properly supervised; admission and attendance registers are maintained, as required, and there is a strategic approach to risk assessment. A disability access plan is in place.

Arrangements are not always made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils by means that pay due regard to current statutory guidance. Barred list checks and checks on employment history are not always carried out when required, and references are not always obtained before staff begin employment at the school.

**The standards relating to welfare, health and safety [paragraphs 9-16], the requirement of Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010, and the ban on corporal punishment under section 548 of the Education Act 1996 are met but those in paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b) are not met.**

**Action point 1**

- the school must ensure that barred list checks, checks on employment history and the obtaining of references are carried out when required, in line with current statutory guidance [paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b)].

**PART 4****Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors**

The school makes appropriate checks to ensure the suitability of supply staff and proprietors.

The school does not make appropriate checks to ensure the suitability of staff other than supply staff. Barred list, prohibition from teaching, identity and medical fitness checks are not always carried out before staff begin employment at the school. A register is not kept as required.

**The standards relating to the suitability of those in contact with pupils at the school in paragraphs 19 and 20 are met but those in paragraphs 18(1), 18(2)(a), 18(2)(c)(i), 18(2)(c)(ii), 18(3), 21(1), 21(3)(a)(i) and 21(3)(b) are not met.**

**Action point 2**

- the school must ensure that all prohibition from teaching, identity and medical fitness checks are completed before each member of staff begins their employment [paragraphs 18(1), 18(2)(a), 18(2)(c)(i), 18(2)(c)(ii) and 18(3)].

**Action point 3**

- the school must ensure that a register is kept as required [paragraph 21(1)].

**PART 5****Premises of and accommodation at schools**

Suitable toilet, changing and showering facilities for pupils and appropriate accommodation for their medical needs are provided. The premises are maintained to a standard commensurate with health and safety; acoustics and lighting are appropriate; water provision is adequate. Suitable outdoor space is provided for physical education and outdoor play.

**The standards relating to the premises and accommodation [paragraphs 22–31] are met.**

## PART 6

### Provision of information

A range of information is variously published, provided or made available to parents, inspectors and the Department for Education. These include details about the proprietor, the ethos of the school and the curriculum, and of the school's arrangements for admission, behaviour and exclusions, bullying, health and safety, first aid, details of the complaints procedure, and the number of complaints registered under the formal procedure during the preceding school year, and the provision for those with education, health and care plans or English as an additional language. They also include particulars of the school's academic performance during the preceding school year, and its results in public examinations, inspection reports and (for parents only) a report at least annually of their own child's progress. The safeguarding policy is posted on the school's website.

**The standard relating to the provision of information [paragraph 32] is met.**

## PART 7

### Manner in which complaints are handled

Parental complaints, if any, are handled effectively through a three-stage process (informal, formal and a hearing before a panel of three, one of whom is independent of the school). Each stage has clear time scales, and at the third stage the panel can make findings and recommendations which are communicated to the complainant. Records are kept appropriately, including of any action taken, whether or not a complaint is successful.

**The standard relating to the handling of complaints [paragraph 33] is met.**

## PART 8

### Quality of leadership in and management of schools

The proprietor ensures that the leadership and management actively promote the well-being of the pupils.

The proprietor does not ensure that the leadership and management demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the other standards are consistently met.

**The standard relating to leadership and management of the school in paragraph 34(c) is met but those in paragraphs 34(a) and 34(b) are not met.**

#### Action point 4

- the proprietor must ensure 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 [paragraph 34(a)].

#### Action point 5

- the proprietor must ensure that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently [paragraph 34(b)].

## **ABOUT THE INSPECTION**

The inspectors observed a small sample of lessons, conducted formal interviews with pupils and examined samples of pupils' work. They held discussions with teachers, senior members of staff and with the deputy chairman of trustees. They observed a sample of the extra-curricular activities that occurred during the inspection period, and attended registration sessions and assemblies. Inspectors visited the facilities for sick or injured pupils. The responses of parents and pupils to pre-inspection questionnaires were analysed, and the inspectors examined regulatory documentation made available by the school.

### **Inspectors**

Mr John Dunston

Reporting inspector

Mrs Angela Hencher

Compliance team inspector (Bursar, HMC and IAPS school)