

A review of Ofsted inspection judgements on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils in Lewisham schools in 2015

Special Schools

Two special schools were inspected in 2015. **Brent Knoll** in early **July** (overall judged Good) and **Greenvale** in **January** (overall judged Outstanding)

Greenvale school was judged to promote pupils smsc development extremely well. Inspectors noted *'The excellent range of subjects and activities on offer provides students with a wealth of opportunities that promote British values. Personal development lessons promote tolerance and respect for the views of others. This prepares students well for meeting people from cultures, religious beliefs and backgrounds other than their own.'*

The team judged that the curriculum *'promotes British values and fully prepares students well for life in modern Britain.'*

Students at Greenvale were described as being *'kind to each other'* displaying *'high levels of care and consideration for others.'* The report describes that groups of students are given the opportunity for quiet time to reflect on their work and behaviour through a 'Mindfulness Project'.

In Brent Knoll pupils' behaviour was described as outstanding and inspectors noted that *'Pupils understand and willingly follow the clear rules for their conduct. They are very positive about the school's emphasis on developing tolerance and respect.'* The inspectors described the school as being *'characterised by an ethos of tolerance and respect for others. It is a harmonious place of learning'*.

In relation to Fundamental British Values in Brent Knoll, the Inspectors said that pupils gained good understanding. *'They learn about the diversity of cultures and traditions in their community and about the importance of laws and rules. Pupils learn effectively about prejudice and the need to challenge stereotypes. ... enjoy their learning about democracy and choice through enthusiastic participation in elections for the school council. The school ensures they are well prepared for life in modern Britain.'*

The curriculum was judged to make successful contribution to pupils' smsc development and Governors were commended for ensuring that all current statutory requirements (e.g, safeguarding) are met.

Infant schools

Two were inspected this year. **Sandhurst infants & nursery school** was inspected in **July**. The overall judgement was good

Inspectors saw a planned programme of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development events ensures which ensures that *'pupils have opportunities to explore issues, such as bullying, in a range of contexts. For example, anti-bullying week makes links to other visits, such as the life bus where feelings can be explored further.'*

The school was described as promoting British values through the school council. At the time of inspection the values that the school promotes were being reviewed *'with families, governors and their local junior school to consolidate this aspect of the school's provision further'*.

The inspection team judged that the school positively tackles discrimination and fosters good relations and work with parents, describing a range of activities, for example a dads' camping trip and an international evening where parents become very involved in the school. These social family events *'provide opportunities to celebrate diversity and encourage respect and understanding towards others.'*

Links with visits from, and to a local children's hospice was noted as having enhanced the school's spiritual, moral, social and cultural curriculum offer, *'providing pupils with regular and relevant volunteering opportunities to support their local community'*.

Torridon infants school was inspected in **July** (overall judged Outstanding)

In this school inspectors noted that pupils *'show considerable care towards each other contributing to the warm and harmonious atmosphere in the school'*. This was one of only 2 Lewisham reports in the year that mentioned assemblies. The team judged that *'Assemblies and circle times, when pupils explore their thoughts and feelings, make a very good contribution to the outstanding provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.'*

Diversity is celebrated in the school where inspectors judged that *'Pupils understand and talk about differences between themselves and others. They talk about their heritage and are interested in the heritage of others.'* It was decided that the school prepares pupils for life in modern Britain very well.

The promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development was praised. The report explains that one way that teachers promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in lessons is by encouraging pupils to help and support each other. The school provides regular opportunities for pupils to reflect and explore their feelings.

Primary schools

Two Primary schools were inspected this year.

Forster Park (Oakbridge Federation) was inspected in **June** (overall judged Good) Forster Park was described in its report as having built *'strong links between promoting spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and key British values'* in the curriculum. An innovative tracking system was mentioned that *'supports teaching of these themes and identifies gaps in provision that need filling'*. The school has 12 values that *'are shared with pupils, reinforced through assemblies, and reflected in the pupils' thoughts on the 'Values tree' in the playground.'*

Lucas Vale was inspected in **July** (overall judged Outstanding).

Pupils were judged to *'appreciate the values of tolerance and respect for others'* and to be *'exceptionally well prepared for life in modern Britain.'* The curriculum was described as containing planned opportunities for promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and these were commended. Some activities were particularly judged as good, for example *'their participation in the school's carnival and international days helps pupils to gain a good understanding of, and respect for, different religions and cultures.'*

Secondary / all through

Haberdashers' Askes Knights Academy (3-18) is one of three academies in the Haberdashers' Aske's Federation with Hatcham College and Crayford Academy, both also 3–18 academies. This was inspected in **May** (overall judged as requiring improvement).

Across the Key Stages the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils was found to permeate the whole curriculum.

The team judged that pupils feel well instructed on, and protected from, all aspects of safety, including e-safety, how to keep themselves safe from extremism, and any form of discrimination.

In the sixth form the wide range of academic and vocational studies *'makes a good contribution to the continuing development of students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural consciousness.'*