

Regent College

Independent School and Sixth Form College

Inspection Report

DCSF Registration Number	310/6080
Unique Reference Number	134891
Inspection number	330411
Inspection dates	29 January 2009
Reporting inspector	Michael Thirkell

This inspection of the school was carried out under section 162A of the Education Act 2002 (as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005).

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Purpose and scope of the inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005, in order to advise the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families about the school's suitability for continued registration as an independent school.

This was a light touch inspection (LTI) which focused principally on the quality of education provided by the school; its provision for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; the arrangements for safeguarding pupils and the improvements the school has made since its last inspection.

Information about the college

Regent College is a non-selective, co-educational college situated in Harrow in the north-western suburbs of London. It is housed in a modern building formerly used as commercial offices. There are currently 102 students between the ages of 13 and 19 attending. Of these, 16 students are of compulsory school age; 2 are in Year 9, 5 in Year 10 and 9 in Year 11. Provision for compulsory aged students is distinctive and in most respects separate from the older students. All students attend the college on a daily basis. The college's mission statement emphasises its aim of '*unlocking the potential of each individual student*'. The college was last inspected in November 2005.

Evaluation of the college

Regent College provides a good quality of education within a calm and positive learning environment which enables students of all ages to thrive and to make good progress. Most students achieve well in public examinations. Management and staff work hard to support students. Students comment positively about the support they receive from teachers in terms both of their academic and personal development. Their behaviour is outstanding. The college continues to serve its students well as indicated by the last inspection. It meets all the regulatory requirements.

Quality of education

The quality of the curriculum provision is good and has some notably strong features. The curriculum is planned in detail and its content is clearly and coherently set out in the college brochure and other guidance documentation. All aspects of curriculum planning reflect the commitment of staff within the college's expectations. Schemes of work reflect a highly professional approach to planning.

The college continues to offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced for students under the age of sixteen. It is based on the subjects of the National Curriculum for students in Year 9. Students in Years 10 and 11 study a core curriculum of English,

mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, French, information and communication technology (ICT), either history or geography, personal, social and health education (PSHE) and citizenship, physical education (PE) and business studies. All students in the current Year 11 have opted to take art and design. The curriculum is supported by good facilities and specialist classrooms, including two science laboratories, an art room and two well equipped suites for ICT. Careers education is provided through PSHE and supported by the local Connexions service. Whilst provision for games and PE is regular and appropriate, the college is keen to extend the range of opportunities for students. The current library arrangement and its immediate environment constrain its use for independent study. The college provides an adequate range of extra-curricular clubs and activities but this is an area identified for development.

Good provision is made for post-sixteen students. A good range of courses is available, predominately at advanced level (AS and A2), but the college also offers a university foundation course for a minority of international students.

The quality of teaching and assessment is good and has a number of outstanding features. Teaching seen during the inspection was never less than good. Teachers are specialists in, and enthusiastic about, their subjects. They effectively engage students who, as a result, generally show a real interest in learning. Students of all ages express confidence in their teachers and comment very positively on the support that they receive both in terms of their academic and personal development. They say that they can always get help with their work and that staff give their time generously. They respond well in classes and behaviour is outstanding. The high quality of teaching and assessment provided is enhanced by the small teaching groups which enable teachers to meet the students' individual learning needs.

Teachers plan and structure their lessons carefully to ensure that the available time is used to best advantage. They make good use of the resources available and successfully employ a range of teaching strategies. For example, computers and large projection screens were used effectively in several classes to involve the students and to help them to understand aspects of the learning topic.

Assessment is good, being based on clear guidance provided by the college. The college has clear procedures for monitoring students' progress. The process is supported by conscientious and regular marking and frequent meetings between the students and their teachers and tutors. All students have individual learning plans (ILPs). Personal study programmes (PSP) have recently been introduced. These involve regular feedback from all subjects and the setting of clear and helpful targets related to student's individual learning needs. Students recognise the value of this development. Students who experience learning difficulties are well supported and specialist staff are available.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the students

The quality of students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is good. The college successfully raises the self-esteem and self-confidence of students because it helps them to succeed in their studies and make progress. The systems used for assessment, including the use of ILPs and regular discussions with their teachers, supports students' growing self-knowledge. The high expectations of behaviour and conduct in the college, supported by aspects of the curriculum such as PSHE, help students to develop an understanding of right and wrong. Students are strongly encouraged to be responsible for their behaviour and to take responsibility for their own actions. Students say that their views are listened to, particularly when expressed through the student council. Students' behaviour is outstanding, reflecting strong support and value for their college community. They contribute to the wider community by collecting money for British and world charities. The college is conscious of the need to develop closer links with the local community. It provides students with a number of opportunities to develop a broad general knowledge of public institutions and services in England through the curriculum, including citizenship, but does not take all opportunities offered within the local community to reinforce this aspect of their development. Life and learning at the college provide good opportunities for students to develop positive attitudes and to acquire appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures, for example through learning about a range of religions in PSHE and assemblies. British students with a wide range of cultural heritage enjoy one another's company. The calm and positive learning environment contributes much to the college, encouraging the development of attitudes of tolerance and harmony between all members of its community.

Safeguarding students' welfare, health and safety

The college has good strategies in place for safeguarding students' welfare, health and safety. Child protection procedures are rigorously applied. Complete and appropriate records are maintained of checks made on all staff. The safety of students, particularly the youngest, is a priority and suitable arrangements are in place for first aid. Responsibilities are appropriately set out with respect to both child protection and first aid and appropriate training is completed. Risk assessments are completed as required. All aspects of health and safety are managed by a professional body appointed by the college.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The college meets all of the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended January 2005.

What the college could do to improve further

While not required by the regulations, the college might wish to consider the following points for development:

- improve access to the library and its environment, in line with established plans, to improve its role in supporting the curriculum and individual study
- improve links with the local community to support aspects of the curriculum and to further enhance the opportunities students have to learn about their country's public institutions.

Inspection Judgement Recording Form

outstanding	good	satisfactory	inadequate
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The quality of education

Overall quality of education		√		
How well the curriculum and other activities meet the range of needs and interests of students		√		
How effective teaching and assessment are in meeting the full range of students' needs		√		
How well students make progress in their learning		√		

Students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

Quality of provision for students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development		√		
The behaviour of students	√			

Welfare, health and safety of students

The overall welfare, health and safety of students		√		
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College details

Name of college	Regent College
DCSF number	310/6080
Unique reference number	134891
Type of college	Secondary and sixth form college
Status	Independent
Date college opened	1998
Age range of students	13-19 years
Gender of students	Mixed
Number on roll	Boys: 69 Girls: 33 Total: 102
Annual fees	£9,150
Address of college	Sai House, 167 Imperial Drive Harrow Middlesex HA2 7JP
Telephone number	020 89669900
Fax number	0208 4295639
Email address	selva@regentcollege.uk.com
Headteacher	Mr Selva Pankaj
Proprietor	RTC Education LTD
Reporting inspector	Michael Thirkell
Dates of inspection	29 January 2009