



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Report for a Progress Monitoring Visit

Brookes Cambridge School

March 2020



School's details

School	Brookes Cambridge School			
DfE number	935/6065			
Address	Brookes Cambridge School Flempton Road Risby Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP28 6QJ			
Telephone number	01284 760531			
Email address	office@brookescambridge.org			
Principal	Mr Graham Ellis			
Proprietor	Mr David Rose			
Age range	2 to 16			
Number of pupils on roll	81			
	Day pupils	75	Boarders	6
	EYFS	21	Lower School	32
	Upper School	28		
Date of visit	9 March 2020			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Brookes Cambridge School is an independent co-educational day and boarding school for pupils aged between two and sixteen years. The school is part of the Brookes Education group, which owns and administers a number of schools worldwide. The UK director of the school reports to the group's global board. The school is organised into three sections. These are the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which includes children aged two to five years, the lower school for pupils aged five to eleven years, and the upper school for pupils aged eleven to sixteen years. Boarders are accommodated on two gender-separated floors in the boarding house. The school has identified 17 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. Four pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan. Six pupils have English as an additional language. The previous inspection was a regulatory compliance and educational quality inspection on 24 to 26 September 2019.

Purpose of the visit

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring visit at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the focused compliance and educational quality inspection of September 2019.

Regulations which were the focus of the visit	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8 (safeguarding); NMS 11 and 14.1; EYFS 3.4 and 3.9	Met
Part 3, paragraph 12 (fire drills in boarding time); NMS 7	Met
Part 3, paragraph 13 (administration of medicines); NMS 3.1, 3.4; EYFS 3.46	Met
Part 3, paragraph 8(b) NMS 2.3 (external contacts for boarders)	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (quality of leadership and management); NMS 13.1, 13.3 to 13.5 and 13.8.	Met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7(a) and (b), 8(a) and (b); NMS 11 and 14.1; EYFS 3.4 and 3.9]

Safeguarding policy

- 2.1 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.2 The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.

Safeguarding implementation

- 2.3 The school meets the standards.
- 2.4 Safeguarding arrangements are implemented effectively with due regard to current statutory guidance and they support pupils' needs. Appropriate records of safeguarding concerns are kept. The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and his deputy have sufficient status to undertake their roles and are appropriately trained in line with local procedures. All staff have received personal and on-line training in recent changes to regulatory guidance and on-line safety, and records of this training are kept. New staff receive induction training to ensure understanding of safeguarding. The school has a strong relationship with the local safeguarding partners and always seeks advice before taking action. The proprietor provides effective support for safeguarding staff and meets with them regularly to ensure that arrangements are secure.
- 2.5 The school has dealt effectively with the action point from the previous focused compliance inspection, and reference checks are now completed for all staff before they commence work.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – fire drills in boarding time [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 8b and 12; NMS 7]

- 2.6 The school meets the standards.
- 2.7 The school now ensures that fire drills are carried out in boarding time at least once a term and it records them effectively, thus ensuring that it has dealt effectively with the action point from the previous inspection.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – administration of medicines [ISSR Part 3 paragraphs 8b and 13; NMS 3.1, 3.4; EYFS 3.46]

- 2.8 The school meets the standards and the requirement.
- 2.9 The school now has clear protocols for the administration of medicines to boarding pupils and effective records are kept. Medicines are appropriately stored. Therefore, it has dealt effectively with the action point from the previous inspection.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – external contacts for boarders [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 8b; NMS 2.3]

2.10 The school meets the standards.

2.11 The school has now appointed an independent listener for boarding pupils, has introduced her to the pupils and made sure her contact details are clearly displayed in the boarding accommodation. It has also provided and displayed contact details for the Children’s Commissioner. Therefore, it has dealt effectively with the action point from the previous inspection.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c)]

2.12 The school meets the standard.

2.13 The school meets the requirements for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents. Particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are published on the school’s website.

Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34(1)(a), (b) and (c); NMS 13.1, 13.3-13.5 and 13.8;]

2.14 The school meets the standards.

2.15 The proprietor ensures that the leadership and management demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards and national minimum standards for boarding are consistently met and actively promote the well-being of the pupils

3. Regulatory action points

- 3.1 For the regulations which were the focus of this visit, the school meets all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2015 and no further action is required as a result of this visit.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspectors held discussions with the head, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the proprietor. They visited different areas of the school including boarding accommodation and talked with groups of pupils. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.