

Oakwood School

Heath Road, Bagworth, Leicestershire CV13 0JD

Inspection dates

21 January 2020

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), 16, 16(a), 16(b)

- At the previous standard inspection, the proprietor had not ensured that leaders accurately recorded the actions that they take when dealing with safeguarding concerns. They did not follow statutory guidance. Not all the necessary checks on staff's suitability to work at the school had been properly completed. Staff had not received relevant safeguarding training, and identified risks to pupils had not been urgently addressed.
- Leaders now have effective procedures to keep pupils safe. There is a comprehensive safeguarding policy in place. The policy is compliant with current guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- Leaders have introduced a new system to record and monitor the actions they take when dealing with safeguarding concerns. The designated safeguarding lead reviews records of concerns daily. This ensures that records are completed accurately, and that staff and relevant external agencies are informed. Records of safeguarding matters are detailed. Leaders now liaise effectively with external agencies and families to keep pupils safe and ensure they get the support they need.
- Staff now receive relevant and up-to-date training to ensure the health, safety and safeguarding of pupils. They understand the potential risks to pupils who attend the school. They teach pupils how to identify and manage risks they may encounter.
- Since the standard inspection took place, the school has relocated to a new purpose-built premises. All necessary health and safety checks have taken place. For example, checks on fire extinguishers and fire risk assessments of the building are completed, and any necessary action taken promptly.
- At the last inspection, the school's risk assessments of pupils' behaviour were out of date and some risk assessments were too generic. The policy did not provide sufficient guidance for staff. The school's risk assessment policy is now fit for purpose. Leaders have provided training for staff to complete risk assessments. Staff understand how to identify risks and the actions needed to manage them. Risk assessments for pupils' behaviour are up to date and are reviewed on a weekly basis, or more frequently if needed.

- The school now meets the requirements of the independent school standards in this part.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 23(1), 23(1)(c), 24(1), 24(1)(a), (24)(1)(b), 24(2)

- The last standard inspection found that the school was operating in a temporary premises while a new school building was being constructed. The school now operates from this new premises.
- The school is maintained to a good standard. Suitable washing, showering and changing facilities are provided for pupils, including for pupils who take part in physical education.
- Leaders have now ensured that there is a suitable room with the necessary facilities for pupils who may need medical treatment or who need short-term care for illness. The room is available throughout the day if needed. It is currently located adjacent to the dining hall. Leaders realise that this is not ideal and have plans in place to relocate the room to a more appropriate area.
- The school now meets the requirements of the independent school standards in this part.

Part 6. Provision of information

Paragraph 32(1)(h)

- At the time of the previous inspection, leaders could not provide details of an annual account of income received and expenditure incurred by the school in respect of pupils who are funded by the local authority.
- Leaders have now provided this financial information to the local authority. They also understand their duty to ensure that this information is monitored carefully and kept up to date.
- The school now meets the requirements of the independent school standard in this part.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c)

- Leadership of the school has changed since the last standard inspection. There is now a new proprietorial board, and the school is led by one headteacher. Leaders demonstrate a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities. After moving into the new premises, leaders are taking the appropriate actions to ensure that all the independent school standards are consistently met.
- Leaders actively promote the well-being of pupils. They now monitor the health, safety and well-being of pupils closely. They ensure that pupils attend school regularly and are safe.
- The school building has sufficient space and resources for the proposed changes in the number of pupils admitted to the school, if it is approved by the department for education.
- The school now meets the requirements of the independent school standard in this part.

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.
- 16 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that –
 - 16(a) the welfare of pupils at the school is safeguarded and promoted by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written risk assessment policy; and
 - 16(b) appropriate action is taken to reduce risks that are identified.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

- 23(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that –
- 23(1)(c) suitable changing accommodation and showers are provided for pupils aged 11 years or over at the start of the school year who receive physical education.
- 24(1) The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that suitable accommodation is provided in order to cater for the medical and therapy needs of pupils, including –
 - 24(1)(a) accommodation for the medical examination and treatment of pupils;
 - 24(1)(b) accommodation for the short-term care of sick and injured pupils, which includes a washing facility and is near to a toilet facility; and
- 24(2) The accommodation provided under sub-paragraphs (1)(a) and (b) may be used for other purposes (apart from teaching) provided it is always readily available to be used for the purposes set out in sub-paragraphs (1)(a) and (b).

Part 6. Provision of information

- 32(1) The standard about the provision of information by the school is met if the proprietor ensures that –

- 32(1)(h) where a pupil wholly or partly funded by the local authority (except where funding is solely for free of charge early years provision in accordance with the duty contained in section 7 of the Childcare Act 2006[16]) is registered at the school, an annual account of income received and expenditure incurred by the school in respect of that pupil is provided to the local authority and, on request, to 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	128078
DfE registration number	855/6021
Inspection number	10138682

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	Other independent school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	8 to 18
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	24
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	0
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	United Education Limited
Chair	Wayne Parkes
Headteacher	Mr Kevin Kinsella
Annual fees (day pupils)	£45,000
Telephone number	01455 273 763
Website	www.ocschool.co.uk
Email address	kevin.kinsella@ocschool.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	22–24 January 2019

Information about this school

- The school's last standard inspection took place on 22–24 January 2019. At this inspection, the school was found not to be meeting a number of the independent school standards and was judged inadequate.
- A material change inspection took place on 19 November 2019. As a result, the Department for Education (DfE) approved the change of premises for the school.

- The school does not use alternative providers.
- The school has 24 pupils on its roll. It is only registered for 20.
- There has been a change of proprietor since the school's last standard inspection. This change has not been registered on the DfE website, [Get information about schools](#).

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.
- I met with the headteacher and the chair of the proprietorial board. I undertook a tour of the school's premises with the headteacher and spoke with staff.
- I met with one of the designated leaders for the safeguarding of pupils. We discussed the school's procedures for addressing concerns and keeping pupils safe.
- I scrutinised relevant documents and records to check the school's compliance with the pertinent independent school standards.

Inspection team

Stephanie Innes-Taylor, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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