

Progress monitoring inspection report

9 December 2024

Oakhyrst Grange School

160 Stanstead Road

Caterham

Surrey

CR3 6AF

The Independent Schools Inspectorate is appointed by the Department for Education to inspect association independent schools in England. Our inspections report on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards and other applicable regulatory requirements are met, collectively referred to in this report as 'the Standards'.

Inspection outcome

The school meets all the relevant Standards that were considered during this inspection.

Inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

ISSR Paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b); EYFS Safeguarding and welfare requirements 3.7

1. Since the previous inspection, leaders have implemented suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils, including children in the early years. The safeguarding team collaborate effectively, sharing information appropriately to inform decisions and acting in line with statutory guidance. Safeguarding concerns are recognised and now referred to external agencies such as children's services in a timely manner, in line with local arrangements.
2. The recently appointed designated safeguarding lead (DSL) is a member of the leadership team and has appropriate authority to act in the best interests of children. Leaders maintain appropriate training for all safeguarding team members, ensuring they have the capacity to support pupils effectively. Records of decision-making processes are suitably maintained and securely kept.
3. Leaders provide staff with safeguarding training as part of their induction to the school, ensuring it occurs before employment begins. Ongoing training is regular and reflects the contextual risks to pupils and statutory guidance. Staff confidently identify and report concerns, such as unexplained behavioural changes or patterns of absence.
4. Staff understand the procedures for reporting low-level concerns in relation to the conduct of adults. Leaders maintain suitable records of these concerns, monitoring them and taking appropriate action when required.
5. Governors maintain effective oversight of the school's safeguarding policy and procedures. They regularly visit the school, listen to pupils' views, observe activities and scrutinise regular reports from leaders.
6. Pupils learn how to keep themselves safe both within and beyond school, including when online. This is accomplished through regular assemblies, and computing and personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education lessons. Leaders regularly monitor reports from the internet filtering and monitoring system and address concerns promptly.
7. Pupils feel safe at school. Pupils can name a trusted adult with whom they can share concerns. They also report concerns about themselves or their peers via class-based worry-reporting toys.
8. The school meets the Standards.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

ISSR Paragraphs 18 to 21; EYFS Safeguarding and welfare requirements 3.9 and 3.12

9. Governors and senior leaders now have effective oversight of recruitment processes and pre-employment screening. They have received additional training and now fulfil their responsibility to ensure all adults are suitably checked before they start work or volunteer at the school. This includes ensuring the identity and the right to work in the UK are checked. Suitable references are also obtained and checked, and when applicable, a barred list check is carried out. Staff are subject to a prohibition from management check before they take up leadership responsibilities.

10. Leaders ensure that the single central record (SCR) is an accurate record of the relevant recruitment safeguarding checks. Governors regularly monitor the SCR and employment files and carry out a final review of checks before a person starts work at the school.
11. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

12. Leaders publish a suitable safeguarding policy on the school website. This policy has due regard for the local context and reflects current statutory guidance.
13. The school meets the Standards.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraphs 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c), 34(2)

14. Since the previous inspection, governance arrangements have been strengthened, and the action plan has been effectively enacted. Governors receive regular reports and cross-check the implementation of policies through visits to the school. They provide leaders with appropriate oversight and challenge and ensure that leaders have appropriate skills and knowledge to fulfil their responsibilities.
15. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Oakhurst Grange School
Department for Education number	936/6139
Registered charity number	325043
Address	Oakhurst Grange School 160 Stanstead Road Caterham CR3 6AF
Phone number	01883 343344
Email address	Office@oakhurstgrangeschool.co.uk
Website	oakhurstgrangeschool.co.uk
Proprietor	Oakhurst Grange Educational Trust
Chair	Mrs Pauline Clark
Headteacher	Mr Alex Gear
Age range	3 to 11
Number of pupils	153
Date of previous inspection	28 to 30 November 2023

Information about the school

16. Oakhyrst Grange School is an independent co-educational day school in Caterham, Surrey. It consists of an early years foundation stage (EYFS) and a prep school. The school is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, whose directors make up the majority of the governing body.
17. There are 30 children in the early years, comprising one Nursery and one Reception class.
18. The school has identified 15 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. No pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan.
19. English is an additional language for seven pupils.
20. The school states its aims are to be committed to providing a supportive, enjoyable family-style environment in which every child is nurtured and encouraged to achieve their potential. It seeks to provide a broad curriculum and opportunities for developing sporting, dramatic, artistic and musical talents.

Purpose of the progress monitoring

Inspectors carried out this inspection under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. This inspection was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection which was carried out at the request of the DfE. The purpose of this inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the Independent School Standards and Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection dates

9 December 2024

21. Two reporting inspectors visited the school for one day.
22. Inspection activities included:
 - scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
 - discussions with the chair of governors
 - discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
 - discussions with pupils and staff
 - scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school.

How are association independent schools in England inspected?

- The Department for Education is the regulator for independent schools in England.
- ISI is approved by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England, which are members of associations in membership of the Independent Schools Council.
- ISI inspections report to the Department for Education on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards, the EYFS statutory framework requirements, the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and any other relevant Standards are met.
- For more information, please visit **www.isi.net**.

Independent Schools Inspectorate

CAP House, 9-12 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9HA

For more information, please visit isi.net