

Soaring High Montessori School

Purley Farm, Colne Road, Coggeshall, CO6 1TH

Inspection dates

20 January 2014

Reason for inspection

A complaint was received at the Department for Education concerning pupils' health, welfare and safety. In response, the Department commissioned Ofsted to undertake an unannounced emergency inspection to look at the issues raised in the complaint.

Conclusions

Arrangements made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school including those for the promotion of good behaviour and anti-bullying are adequate. Some aspects of record keeping do not consistently reflect the good quality of written policies for safeguarding and child protection, health and safety (including arrangements for educational visits), first aid, behaviour and anti-bullying. The school is addressing this as a matter of urgency by developing official forms for all aspects of record keeping relating to pupils' health, welfare and safety.

Arrangements for health and safety are variable in quality overall. The school has a comprehensive written policy that complies with health and safety laws but it is not implemented consistently with sufficient rigour and regard to detail. Standards are not met fully and require improvement as HMI found some inadequacies in the safety and security arrangements of the school site. The hot water in washrooms is too hot for pupils' safety. Sources for drinking water are not labelled as required. Two windows on the upper floor were locked but are without restraints for when the windows are opened in warm weather. Similarly, low-level ground floor windows facing the road are unrestrained if unlocked and opened.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school requires improvement and must take action to meet The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2010 ('the Regulations'), and associated requirements

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| ■ Address inadequacies in safety and security arrangements to ensure pupils' health and safety | 11 |
| ■ Label sources of drinking water. | 23F(1)(c) |
| ■ Adjust the water temperature in washrooms. | 23F(1)(d). |

Inspection team

Linda Killman, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Paul Brooker, Team Inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- Soaring High is an independent day school for boys and girls aged four to 11 years of age.
- Premises are on the outskirts of Coggeshall, Essex. The school is registered for 70 pupils and there are currently 55 pupils on roll. One pupil has a statement of special educational needs.
- The school follows the educational principles of Maria Montessori and aims to 'develop motivated, enthusiastic learners that have respect for themselves, the community and the environment.'
- The school was last inspected in February 2012.

School details

Unique reference number	135594
Inspection number	439272
DfE registration number	881/6058
<p>This inspection was conducted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005.</p>	
Type of school	Montessori primary
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	4–11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	55
Number of part time pupils	N/A
Proprietor	Sarah Rowledge
Headteacher	Sarah Rowledge
Date of previous school inspection	31 January 2012
Annual fees (day pupils)	£6,075
Telephone number	01376 564392
Email address	soaringhighschool@btconnect.com

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