

# Reedham Park School

71a Old Lodge Lane, Purley, Surrey CR8 4DN

**Inspection date** 17 June 2016

**Overall outcome** **Independent school standards met**

## Context of the inspection

- The inspection was undertaken at the request of the registration authority for independent schools in order to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan.
- The inspection was the school's first progress monitoring inspection since its emergency inspection in September 2015 which identified unmet regulations in relation to safeguarding, health and safety, risk assessments and leadership and management.
- The school submitted an action plan to the Department for Education. This action plan was judged to require improvement in December 2015. It was accepted with modifications in February 2016.
- The inspection focused on the school's progress in those parts of its action plan relating to Parts 3, 5 and 8 of the independent school standards.
- The inspector met with the headteacher, deputy headteacher, school secretary and the governor responsible for safeguarding. The premises were inspected and a wide range of relevant documentation was scrutinised. The inspector also met informally with pupils and observed them at the start of the school day and in assembly.
- The inspection was conducted without notice.

## Main findings

### Welfare, health and safety

- Safeguarding procedures now meet the requirements of the independent school standards. The latest guidance issued by the Secretary of State is now referenced and adhered to in the school's child protection and safeguarding policies. These policies are available on the school's website. Designated safeguarding leads and the designated safeguarding governor have completed enhanced safeguarding and safer recruitment training, as well as specific training on radicalisation, domestic abuse and female genital mutilation. Arrangements for managing disclosures, allegations and incidents are clear and well documented. All staff have recently completed annual safeguarding training, provided by the local authority. Separate, enhanced training on radicalisation and extremism was delivered in November 2015. The importance of disqualification checks is now clearly understood by leaders. These checks were undertaken for all staff immediately after the last inspection.
- There is now a clear e-safety policy and teaching pupils about safety online has become part of the school's curriculum. Leaders have sent helpful information home to pupils' families and facilitated e-safety workshops. They have also organised annual visits from the National Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Children, teaching pupils about safety online, especially in relation to the use of mobile technology outside school. While the curriculum for the teaching of computing remains a relatively basic offer, there are plans to further develop this from September 2016.

- There is now a clear, separate risk assessment policy in place. Risk assessments are now undertaken as a matter of course for all school activities. Scrutiny of risk assessments shows these are thorough. They cover premises, classrooms, school trips and visits, individual pupils, school events and the completion of maintenance and repairs. There is now also a clear risk assessment to demonstrate how leaders and teachers ensure a safe handover to parents at the end of the school day.

### **Premises and accommodation**

- Since the inspection in 2015, a new system for reporting health and safety concerns, including all maintenance issues, has been introduced. A written request is now made for all issues and actioned quickly by one of the school's leaders. Where issues cannot be resolved internally, external contractors are commissioned to complete works within 24 hours. While the school's historical premises are compact, the inspector found them to be safe.

### **Leadership and management**

- Since 2015, there has been a significant culture change in the school with a more formal governance structure and records of termly meetings. Governors and trustees, led by a new, independent chair, are now providing appropriate support and challenge to the school's leaders. Committees focusing on key areas of the school's operation including health and safety have been created. The headteacher, due to retire after many years in the school, has begun an effective handover to the deputy headteacher, who will take up the headship in September 2016. The school development plan, completed earlier than identified in the action plan submitted to the Department for Education, is clear and ambitious. It is clear that the last inspection encouraged honest, positive reflection and the inspector agrees with leaders who said, and demonstrated, that the school has taken 'leaps forward' since September 2015.

### **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

**The school meets The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and associated requirements.**

## Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

## Information about this school

- Reedham Park School is an independent preparatory school for pupils aged four to 11. It has operated since 1932 and is located in Purley, in the London Borough of Croydon.
- There are currently 105 pupils on roll. There are 10 children in the early years foundation stage who attend part time, in the mornings only. The school prepares pupils for entrance examinations to independent secondary schools and grammar schools. No pupils have an education, health and care plan or statement of special educational needs.
- The last inspection was an emergency inspection in September 2015, when some standards were identified as unmet. The last standard inspection of the school was in November 2014, when the school was judged to be good.

## School details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	101838
<b>Inspection number</b>	10017709
<b>DfE registration number</b>	306/6063

This inspection was conducted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008.

<b>Type of school</b>	Preparatory day school
<b>School status</b>	Independent school
<b>Age range of pupils</b>	4–11
<b>Gender of pupils</b>	Mixed
<b>Number of pupils on the school roll</b>	105
<b>Number of part-time pupils</b>	10
<b>Proprietor</b>	Reedham Park School Limited
<b>Chair</b>	Mrs Lauren Michalos
<b>Headteacher</b>	Ms Louise Shaw
<b>Date of previous school inspection</b>	15 September 2015
<b>Annual fees</b>	£3,900–£4,500
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8660 6357
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:reedhampark.school@btinternet.com">reedhampark.school@btinternet.com</a>

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