

Pulse and Water College

20 October 2016

3rd Floor Block 0, 18–36 Wellington Street, Woolwich, London SE18 6PF

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

Paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b)

- At the time of the previous monitoring visit, a revised safeguarding policy did not cover the school's duty to assess the risks to vulnerable pupils posed by radicalisation and extremism.
- The school has amended its policy effectively and has identified a clear procedure for assessing the risk to pupils of becoming radicalised and/or involved in extremist activity. The policy identifies a range of criteria under three headings: engagement factors, intent to cause harm and capability. The threshold is met if five of the criteria are met under the first heading and one under each of the other two headings. This is known by the school as a '511' risk assessment.
- When the 511 threshold is met, the school informs the local authority's 'Prevent' team. Although there have been no referrals, one pupil was assessed as 530, which means that there was evidence of engagement and intent but not of capability. Leaders monitored the accuracy of the risk assessment and set a date for a review meeting. The pupil left before the review meeting.

Paragraph 9, 9(a), 9(b), 9(c)

- The previous progress monitoring report noted that the risks related to decisions to exclude pupils were not assessed thoroughly enough.
- The amended behaviour policy includes a clear set of criteria for assessing the decisions to exclude pupils. For example, there are effective procedures to assess the risks of a fixed-term exclusion. This includes the risk of child sexual exploitation, children missing education, radicalisation and extremism and gang violence.
- In practice, the school rarely uses fixed-term exclusions as all the pupils who attend the school are considered vulnerable. As a result, the school utilises what it calls a 'detention exclusion', which requires the pupil to stay in school and attend on a Saturday if their behaviour has not improved. This has proved effective in reducing significantly the risk to pupils of a fixed-term exclusion. A register of actions taken is recorded in the school's sanction book.

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

At the previous progress monitoring visit, the risk assessment policy and the actions taken to reduce the identified risks were not secure enough. The school has taken appropriate action to draw up a clear risk assessment policy and to implement the agreed procedures. As a result, the school takes effective action to reduce identified risks. This is evidenced by the assessment of risks related to radicalisation, extremism and exclusion.

Part 6. Provision of information

Paragraph 32(1)(c)

- The safeguarding policy is published on the school's internet website.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- The previous progress monitoring report noted that because some of the standards remained unmet, the standards related to leadership and management were not met.
- The school has tackled the unmet standard effectively. The proprietor ensures that leaders and managers demonstrate appropriate skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the independent school standards are met consistently. Leaders actively promote the well-being of pupils.

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

- The proprietor ensures that:
 - arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and
 - such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State. (paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b))
- The proprietor ensures that:
 - a written behaviour policy is drawn up that, amongst other matters, sets out the sanctions to be adopted in the event of pupil misbehaviour
 - the policy is implemented effectively; and
 - a record is kept of the sanctions imposed upon pupils for serious misbehaviour. (paragraph 9, 9(a), 9(b), 9(c))
- The proprietor ensures that:
 - 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
 - appropriate action is taken to reduce risks that are identified. (paragraph 16, 16(a), 16(b))
- The proprietor ensures that those with leadership and management responsibilities at the school:
 - demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently
 - fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and
 - actively promote the well-being of pupils. (paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c))

School details

Unique reference number	141315
DfE registration number	203/6004
Inspection number	10022110

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	Secondary
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	11 to 16
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	7
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Pulse and Water Learning Limited
Chair	Temi Ladenika
Headteacher	Temi Ladenika
Annual fees (day pupils)	£75 per day
Telephone number	020 8317 2639
Website	http://www.pulseandwater.co.uk
Email address	admin@pulseandwater.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	22 March 2016

Information about this school

- Pulse and Water College is an independent school for up to 25 pupils from the age of 11 to 16. It caters for pupils who have been excluded from other schools or are at risk of being excluded.
- The headteacher is also the proprietor. The school was established in September 2014.
- There are currently seven full-time pupils on roll, although one is being home tutored by one of the college's staff.
- At the time of the previous progress monitoring inspection, a number of statutory requirements were not met.
- No pupil has a statement of special educational need or an education, health and care plan.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out without notice 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 monitoring inspection.
- This was the school's second progress monitoring inspection. It focused on:
 - the arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school
 - the written behaviour policy and whether the policy is implemented effectively
 - whether the welfare of pupils at the school is safeguarded and promoted
 - the extent to which those with leadership and management responsibilities demonstrate good skills and knowledge so that the independent school standards are met consistently and promote the well-being of pupils.
- The school's action plan was accepted in July 2016.
- The inspector held discussions with the headteacher, reviewed policies and carried out a short walk through the school premises.
- The inspector also spoke to pupils and observed some of the interactions between the headteacher and pupils.

Inspection team

Brian Oppenheim, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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