

Le Herisson School

Methodist Church, Rivercourt Road, London W6 9JT

Overall outcome

The school does not meet 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), 9, 9(a), 9(b), 9(c), 13, 14, 21(1), 21(3), 21(3)(a)(iii), 21(3)(a)(vii), 21(3)(a)(viii), 21(3)(b), 21(4) and 32(1)(c)

- The school's safeguarding policy refers to the latest guidance issued by the Secretary of State. However, though the school has a website, the policy is not available online.
- All staff have recently completed relevant safeguarding training, as well as additional training on radicalisation and extremism. The inspector contacted the local authority designated officer, who spoke positively about the school and confirmed that she had no concerns.
- However, while enhanced training for designated safeguarding leaders has been booked, leaders have not ensured that this training has been kept up to date.
- In addition, vetting checks are not recorded on the single central record methodically and records of some checks, for example overseas checks and prohibition checks, are not recorded.
- The school's behaviour policy is clear, has been recently updated and refers to appropriate rewards and sanctions and the school's 'behaviour management pyramid'. While misbehaviour is extremely rare, the school does not keep a record of sanctions imposed on pupils.
- The school's first aid policy was recently updated and meets requirements. There are 11 trained paediatric first aiders and first aid supplies are available in every classroom. Records are kept of any accidents, incidents and provision of first aid.
- The inspector visited all lessons and observed pupils coming into school at the start of the day, and at break and lunchtime. The school is a safe and secure learning environment; there are two members of staff in every classroom and pupils are well supervised.
- The school does not meet all of the requirements for this part.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 24(1), 24(1)(a) and 24(1)(b)

- Routine checks on the premises found that the medical room had been removed as a result of recent building works. While there are plans to build a new medical room during the next school holiday, the related requirements are not met in this part.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

Paragraph 33, 33(a), 33(b), 33(c), 33(d), 33(e), 33(f), 33(g), 33(h), 33(i), 33(i)(i), 33(i)(ii), 33(j), 33(j)(i), 33(j)(ii), 33(k)

- The school has a written complaints policy. As with all other policies, this is not available on the school's website. However, the policy is made available to parents in hard copy and allows for complaints to be raised informally initially, and then formally in writing, where necessary.
- The policy, written by an external consultant, is not understood by the school's leaders. It confusingly refers to company directors, proprietors and a panel that does not exist. Timescales for the management of complaints are also not clear enough.
- While copies of the few complaints raised are printed and kept in a folder, there is no written record of complaints made, the actions taken and the point of resolution.
- The school does not meet all of the requirements for this part.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- While the proprietor and school manager are both passionate about providing a high-quality learning experience for their pupils, they do not fully know or understand the independent school standards. As a result, they have not ensured that these standards are met consistently, or that the well-being of pupils is actively promoted.
- The school does not meet any of the requirements for this part.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school does not meet 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. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

The school does not meet the following independent school standards

- Ensure that arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school and that these arrangements have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State (paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b)).
- Ensure that a record is kept of the sanctions imposed upon pupils for serious misbehaviour (paragraph 9(c)).
- Ensure that the single central register of vetting checks contains the information about all the checks that are required to check that staff members are suitable to work with children (paragraph 21(1), 21(3), 21(3)(a)(iii), 21(3)(a)(vii), 21(3)(a)(viii), 21(3)(b), 21(4)).
- Ensure that suitable accommodation is provided in order to cater for the medical needs of pupils (paragraph 24(1), 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b)).
- Ensure that the particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are published on the school's internet website (paragraph 32(1)(c)).
- Ensure that a complaints procedure is drawn up and effectively implemented and which sets out clear timescales for the management of a complaint; makes provision for a hearing before a panel appointed by or on behalf of the proprietor and consisting of at least three people who were not directly involved in the matter detailed in the complaint; ensures that where there is a panel hearing, one panel member is independent; allows for a parent to attend and be accompanied at a panel hearing if they wish; provides for the panel to make findings and recommendations and stipulates that a copy of those findings and recommendations is provided to the complainant and, where relevant, the person complained about, and made available for inspection on the school premises; provides for a written record to be kept of all complaints and whether they are resolved following a formal procedure, or proceed to a panel hearing; and action taken by the school as a result; and provides that correspondence, statements and records relating to individual complaints are to be kept confidential except where the Secretary of State or a body conducting an inspection requests access to them (paragraph 33, 33(c), 33(f), 33(g), 33(h), 33(i), 33(i)(i), 33(i)(ii), 33(j), 33(j)(i), 33(j)(ii), 33(k)).
- Ensure that those with leadership and management responsibilities demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently; that they fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and that they actively promote the well-being of pupils (paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c)).

School details

Unique reference number	100376
DfE registration number	205/6387
Inspection number	10021729

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	French day school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	2–6
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	68
Number of part-time pupils	None
Proprietor	Maria Frost
School manager	Lucie Conté
Annual fees (day pupils)	£9,300–£9,780
Telephone number	020 8563 7664
Website	www.leherissonschooll.co.uk
Email address	administration@leherissonschooll.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	23–25 September 2014

Information about this school

- Le Herisson School is a French Nursery and Infant day school. It opened in 1989 and caters for up to 76 boys and girls between two and six years of age.
- There are 68 pupils on roll. All attend full time and all speak French as their first language. There are no pupils with an education, health and care (EHC) plan.
- The school is located on the lower ground floor of a church in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.
- The school follows the French national curriculum and operates under the auspices of L'Agence pour l'Enseignement français à l'Etranger (AEFE) through the French Embassy in London.
- The school's proprietor has sole responsibility for governance.
- There were no responses to the Ofsted online survey (Parent View).
- The school was last inspected in September 2014, when it was judged to provide a good quality of education.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was conducted by Ofsted 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 2008.¹
- The inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education following an anonymous complaint received about the behaviour and safety of pupils and the management of complaints.
- The inspector was asked to report against some of the regulations contained within Parts 3, 7 and 8 of the independent school standards.
- The inspection was carried out without notice.
- The inspector reviewed key documents and policies, including those related to safeguarding, behaviour, first aid and complaints. He met with the school manager and the proprietor throughout the inspection. The inspector also toured the premises, briefly observed teaching and learning in all lessons and observed pupils at break and lunchtime.

Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

¹www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/contents.

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Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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