

# Green Gables Montessori Primary School

7 October 2016

4 Wapping Lane, Wapping, London E1W 2RG

## 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) and 7(b)*

- At the time of the school's emergency inspection in November 2015 the school's safeguarding policy was not compliant with the latest statutory guidance. The policy made no reference to important safeguarding issues such as female genital mutilation, radicalisation and child sexual exploitation.
- This inspection found the school's safeguarding policy to reflect the latest 'Keeping children safe in education' (September 2016) guidance. All staff have read, understood and are regularly quizzed on their knowledge of Part 1 of this statutory guidance. Leaders have decided to write separate policies on key safeguarding issues such as female genital mutilation, child sexual exploitation and online safety. All these policies are available on the school's website.
- Although there have been no concerns worthy of referral to date, designated safeguarding leaders and staff are knowledgeable and clear about how to identify and follow up possible causes for concern. All necessary training for staff with specific safeguarding responsibilities, and all other staff, is recent and meets requirements.
- During informal discussions at lunchtime, a number of pupils told the inspector how much they liked their school. They all said that they felt safe, enjoyed learning and were happy to be at Green Gables.

#### *Paragraphs 11, 16, 16(a) and 16(b)*

- At the previous inspection, risk assessments were judged to be lacking in rigour, thus endangering the safety of pupils.
- This inspection found both the health and safety and risk assessment policies to have been reviewed and strengthened. Daily risk assessment checks on all areas of the premises are now undertaken. The kitchenette area, which was identified as a particular concern at the emergency inspection, now has a safety guard over the hob and a safety gate to prevent access by pupils. A specific policy and risk assessment is also now in place for the use of this area.

#### *Paragraph 15*

- Attendance registers did not meet requirements at the time of the November 2015 inspection because leaders and managers did not use the required absence codes; the school did not make swift contact with parents to ascertain a pupil's absence; and lateness was not monitored or recorded in the registers. The admission register did not include the required information about the destinations of pupils who left the school, and this information was also not shared with the local authority.

- This inspection found that attendance registers now meet requirements as the correct absence codes are used, including late codes. Absence and lateness is followed up more robustly and there is now an effective system for monitoring both. The admission register now includes destinations of all pupils who leave. These are checked by the headteacher and the local authority is routinely informed about both the destinations of departed pupils and when a pupil is absent for more than 10 days.
- All of the standards checked in this part are now met.

## Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

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

- At the previous inspection, the school's medical room did not meet requirements because it failed to provide privacy for pupils. The space was cramped and lacked first aid resources, which impeded the provision of treatment for pupils who were sick or injured.
- This inspection found that leaders have cleared the medical room. The medical room is now a dedicated, private space for the provision of emergency treatment and care. First aid equipment is available in the room, as well as in all classrooms.
- The standards checked in this part are now met.

## Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

### *Paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)*

- Leaders have taken swift, appropriate and effective action to remedy the failures identified at the emergency inspection in November 2015.
- As a result, all of the independent school standards checked during this inspection are met, including those related to the leadership and management of the school and the well-being of pupils.

## **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

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**

- Ensure 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)).
- Ensure that relevant health and safety laws are complied with by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written health and safety policy (paragraph 11).
- Ensure that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (paragraph 15).
- Ensure 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)).
- 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 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	131198
DfE registration number	211/6386
Inspection number	10020470

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	Montessori primary
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	2 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	74
Number of part-time pupils	6
Proprietor	Mr Shahid Hamid
Headteacher	Jan Arnold
Annual fees (day pupils)	£7,600 to £11,000
Telephone number	020 7488 9237
Website	<a href="http://www.greengableschool.com">www.greengableschool.com</a>
Email address	<a href="mailto:office2@greengableschool.com">office2@greengableschool.com</a>
Date of previous standard inspection	April 2013

## Information about this school

- Green Gables Montessori Primary School is located within the ground floor of a residential building in Wapping, East London.
- The school opened in September 2011. It received its last full inspection in April 2013, when the overall effectiveness of the school was judged to be good.
- In July 2014 an unannounced emergency inspection found the school to be compliant with regulatory requirements.
- This is the first progress monitoring inspection since a second unannounced emergency inspection in November 2015 found that the school was not meeting a number of the independent school standards. The school's action plan to meet the failed standards was accepted by the Department for Education (DfE) in May 2016.
- The school's website is in the process of being relaunched. However, the relevant policies are available online and also in hard copy to parents at the school's reception.

## Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out 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 inspection.
- The inspection was carried out without notice.
- The school's inspection in November 2015 identified a number of standards that were not met in relation to safeguarding, health and safety, admission and attendance registers, risk assessments and the premises. The school drew up an action plan for improvement in response to the report which was evaluated in April 2016 and judged to be acceptable. It was subsequently accepted by the DfE in May 2016.
- This is the school's first progress monitoring inspection. The inspector was asked to focus on particular requirements contained within Parts 3, 5 and 8 of the independent school standards.
- The inspector toured the premises and visited all classes. He held discussions with the headteacher and acting deputy headteacher throughout the inspection. He scrutinised a wide range of documentation related to the independent school standards including risk assessments, key policies and admission and attendance registers. He also joined pupils at lunchtime to speak to them about their views on their school.
- There were no responses to the Ofsted online survey (Parent View) at the time of the inspection.

## Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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