

Demeter House

Bigby Street, Brigg, North Lincolnshire DN20 8EF

Inspection dates

20 March 2018

Context of the inspection

There was a material change inspection on 9 February 2017 to assess the ability of the school to provide residential care. Subsequently, the school's registration was amended by the Department for Education to allow residential care to take place.

This inspection was planned to be the first annual inspection of the residential provision since the change of registration. There have not been any pupils who have accessed the residential provision. Therefore, this monitoring visit took place to review the school's policies, procedures and suitability to continue be able to provide residential care in the future.

Summary of the progress made since the last inspection

Arrangements are now in place for the secure storage of medication. This storage is already safely in use on a regular basis for day pupils.

Leaders ensure that a daily risk assessment takes place of the grounds to check for any potential dangers to pupils. Responses include spreading grit in icy conditions. There are new risk assessment formats in place covering the residential premises for when pupils start to use them.

There is a new missing and absconding child procedure that reflects the local joint protocols between the local authority and police.

These additional measures meet the requirements of the national minimum standards and will contribute towards promoting the health and safety of pupils.

The safeguarding policy is used to help protect day pupils whom staff and school leaders are concerned about. This will also apply to pupils using the residential accommodation.

Pupils, parents and staff are consulted regularly, with their views taken account of in the day-to-day running of the school. A part of the residential accommodation is used to promote day pupils' life skills and independence and is a good resource.

School leaders have developed a network of professional contacts and improvement partners. Two teachers are also becoming governors at other schools. This will help make a positive contribution towards the school's improvement process and the existing

governance arrangements.

National minimum standards

The school has made good progress and is likely to continue to meet all the national minimum standards for residential special schools.

Inspection team

Simon Morley

Lead social care inspector

Information about this school

- Demeter House School is an independent day special school, which is registered to admit up to 100 boys aged from five to 19 years. There are currently 59 full-time pupils on the roll.
- Pupils have autistic spectrum disorder and social and emotional difficulties, which may lead to challenging behaviour.
- The school opened in Scunthorpe in September 2006 and relocated to Brigg in November 2009. In 2017, an additional part of the school opened in Scawby, close to Brigg. This part of the school provides the residential accommodation.
- All pupils have an education, health and care plan.
- The school makes use of alternative provision to extend the curriculum, particularly for older pupils. This includes a cafe at a local indoor bowling club.

School details

Unique reference number	135247
Social care unique reference number	1263567
DfE registration number	813 6005

This inspection was carried out under the Children Act 1989, as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000, having regard to the national minimum standards for boarding schools.

The inspection was conducted 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 following the previous inspection.

Type of school	residential special school
Number of boarders on roll	0
Gender of boarders	male
Age range of boarders	5 to 19
Headteacher	Melissa Marris
Date of previous boarding inspection	9 February 2017
Telephone number	01652 654 251
Email address	mel.marris@demeterhouseschool.com

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