

# Kensington Park School

59 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5JP

**Inspection date**

17 July 2018

**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

*Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b), 8, 8(a) and 8(b)*

- At the progress monitoring inspection in March 2018, the arrangements for safeguarding pupils were much improved. However, the review of staff recruitment had proved a considerable task. Specialist consultants were working with diligence to rectify the significant number of gaps in vetting checks, but the single central record of staff recruitment checks remained incomplete. As a result, these paragraphs remained unmet.
- This inspection confirmed that the single central record of staff recruitment checks now meets all requirements, as detailed in Part 4 below.
- The safeguarding and safer recruitment policies published on the school's website continue to be compliant with statutory requirements.
- The standards in this part are now met.

### Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

*All paragraphs*

- At the progress monitoring inspection in March 2018, work was under way to rectify the significant number of gaps in vetting checks, but the single central record of staff recruitment checks remained incomplete. As a result, many of the standards in this part were judged to be still not met. Additional standards were also judged to be not met as other checks were still in process, including the collation, verification and recording of checks on contracted staff and in respect of the suitability of governors and proprietors.
- This inspection confirmed that the single central record of staff recruitment checks now meets all requirements, because it includes all the required vetting checks for staff past, present and those currently being recruited to start work in August 2018. It also includes all the required checks on contracted staff, governors and proprietors.
- The standards in this part are now met.

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

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

- At the previous inspection, although leaders had worked with determination to realise the improvements outlined in their action plan, the standards in this part remained unmet because the overall safeguarding arrangements – in relation to recruitment checks only – remained ineffective.
- This inspection confirmed that leaders have worked effectively to meet all the independent school standards in relation to the suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors. As a result, the standards in this part are now met.

## 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

#### Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- 7 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that-
  - 7(a) arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and
  - 7(b) such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- 8 Where section 87(1) of the 1989 Act[11] applies in relation to a school the standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that-
  - 8(a) arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of boarders while they are accommodated at the school; and
  - 8(b) such arrangements have regard to the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools or, where applicable, the National Minimum Standards for Residential Special Schools or the National Minimum Standards for Accommodation of Students under Eighteen by Further Education Colleges.

#### Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

- 18(2) The standard in this paragraph is met if-
  - 18(2)(a) no such person is barred from regulated activity relating to children in accordance with section 3(2) of the 2006 Act where that person is or will be engaging in activity which is regulated activity within the meaning of Part 1 of Schedule 4 to that Act;
  - 18(2)(c) the proprietor carries out appropriate checks to confirm in respect of each such person-
  - 18(2)(c)(iv) where appropriate, the person's qualifications;
  - 18(2)(e) in the case of any person for whom, by reason of that person living or having lived outside the United Kingdom, obtaining such a certificate is not sufficient to establish the person's suitability to work in a school, such further checks are made as the proprietor considers appropriate, having regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary

of State; and

- 18(2)(f) in the case of staff who care for, train, supervise or are in charge of boarders, in addition to the matters specified in paragraphs (a) to (e), the proprietor checks that Standard 14 of the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools or, where applicable, Standard 14 of the National Minimum Standards for Residential Special Schools, is complied with.
- 18(3) The checks referred to in sub-paragraphs (2)(c) and (except where sub-paragraph (4) applies) (2)(e) must be completed before a person's appointment.
- 19(2) The standard in this paragraph is met if-
  - 19(2)(a) a person offered for supply by an employment business to the school only begins to work at the school if the proprietor has received-
  - 19(2)(a)(i) written notification from the employment business in relation to that person-
  - 19(2)(a)(i)(aa) that the checks referred to in paragraph 21(3)(a)(i) to (iv), (vii) and (b) have been made to the extent relevant to that person;
  - 19(2)(a)(i)(bb) that, where relevant to that person, an enhanced criminal record check has been made and that it or another employment business has obtained an enhanced criminal record certificate in response to such a check; and
  - 19(2)(a)(i)(cc) if the employment business has obtained such a certificate before the person is due to begin work at the school, whether it disclosed any matter or information; and
  - 19(2)(a)(ii) a copy of any enhanced criminal record certificate obtained by an employment business before the person is due to begin work at the school;
  - 19(2)(b) a person offered for supply by an employment business only begins work at the school if the proprietor considers that the person is suitable for the work for which the person is supplied;
  - 19(2)(c) before a person offered for supply by an employment business begins work at the school the person's identity is checked by the proprietor of the school (irrespective of any such check carried out by the employment business before the person was offered for supply);
  - 19(2)(d) the proprietor, in the contract or other arrangements which the proprietor makes with any employment business, requires the employment business to provide-
  - 19(2)(d)(i) the notification referred to in paragraph (a)(i); and
  - 19(2)(d)(ii) a copy of any enhanced criminal record certificate which the employment business obtains

- 19(2)(e) except for those persons to whom sub-paragraph (4) applies, in the case of supply staff who care for, train, supervise or are in charge of boarders, the proprietor checks that the relevant parts of Standard 14 of the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools or where applicable, Standard 14 of the National Minimum Standards for Residential Special Schools are complied with.
- 19(3) Except in the case of a person to whom sub-paragraph (4) applies, the certificate referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(a)(i)(bb) must have been obtained not more than 3 months before the date on which the person is due to begin work at the school.
- 20(6) The standard in this paragraph is met in relation to an individual ("MB"), not being the Chair of the school, who is a member of a body of persons corporate or unincorporate named as the proprietor of the school in the register or in an application to enter the school in the register, if-
  - 20(6)(a) MB-
    - 20(6)(a)(i) is not barred from regulated activity relating to children in accordance with section 3(2) of the 2006 Act where that individual is or will be engaging in activity which is regulated activity within the meaning of Part 1 of Schedule 4 of that Act; and
    - 20(6)(a)(ii) does not carry out work, or intend to carry out work, at the school in contravention of a prohibition order, an interim prohibition order, or any direction made under section 128 of the 2008 Act or section 142 of the 2002 Act or any disqualification, prohibition or restriction which takes effect as if contained in either such direction;
  - 20(6)(b) subject to sub-paragraphs (7) to (8), the Chair of the school makes the following checks relating to MB-
    - 20(6)(b)(i) where relevant to the individual, an enhanced criminal record check;
    - 20(6)(b)(ii) checks confirming MB's identity and MB's right to work in the United Kingdom; and
    - 20(6)(b)(iii) where, by reason of MB's living or having lived outside the United Kingdom, obtaining an enhanced criminal record certificate is not sufficient to establish MB's suitability to work in a school, such further checks as the Chair of the school considers appropriate, having regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
  - 20(6)(c) subject to sub-paragraph (8), where the Secretary of State makes a request for an enhanced criminal record check relating to MB countersigned by the Secretary of State to be made, such a check is made.
- 21(1) The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor keeps a register which shows such of the information referred to in sub-paragraphs (3) to (7) as is applicable to the school in question.

- 21(3) The information referred to in this sub-paragraph is-
  - 21(3)(a) in relation to each member of staff ("S") appointed on or after 1st May 2007, whether-
    - 21(3)(a)(i) S's identity was checked;
    - 21(3)(a)(ii) a check was made to establish whether S is barred from regulated activity relating to children in accordance with section 3(2) of the 2006 Act;
    - 21(3)(a)(iv) checks were made to ensure, where appropriate, that S had the relevant qualifications;
    - 21(3)(a)(v) an enhanced criminal record certificate was obtained in respect of S;
    - 21(3)(a)(vi) checks were made pursuant to paragraph 18(2)(d);
    - 21(3)(a)(vii) a check of S's right to work in the United Kingdom was made; and
    - 21(3)(a)(viii) checks were made pursuant to paragraph 18(2)(e).
- 21(4) The information referred to in this sub-paragraph is, in relation to each member of staff in post on 1st August 2007 who was appointed at any time before 1st May 2007, whether each check referred to in sub-paragraph (3) was made and whether an enhanced criminal record certificate was obtained, together with the date on which any check was completed or certificate obtained.
- 21(5) The information referred to in this sub-paragraph is, in relation to supply staff-
  - 21(5)(a) whether written notification has been received from the employment business that-
    - 21(5)(a)(i) checks corresponding to those referred to in sub-paragraph (3)(a)(i) to (iv), (vi) and (vii) have been made to the extent relevant to any such person; and
    - 21(5)(a)(ii) an enhanced criminal record check has been made and that it or another employment business has obtained an enhanced criminal record certificate in response to such a check,
  - 21(5)(b) whether a check has been made in accordance with paragraph 19(2)(e) together with the date the check was completed; and
  - 21(5)(c) where written notification has been received from the employment business in accordance with a contract or other arrangements referred to in paragraph 19(2)(d) that it has obtained an enhanced criminal record certificate, whether the employment business supplied a copy of the certificate to the school.
- 21(6) The information referred to in this sub-paragraph is, in relation to each member

("MB") of a body of persons named as the proprietor appointed on or after 1st May 2007, whether the checks referred to in paragraph 20(6)(b) were made, the date they were made and the date on which the resulting certificate was obtained.

- 21(7) The information referred to in this sub-paragraph is, in relation to each member of a body of persons named as the proprietor in post on 1st August 2007 who was appointed at any time before 1st May 2007-
  - 21(7)(a) whether each check referred to in sub-paragraph (6) was made; and
  - 21(7)(b) whether an enhanced criminal record certificate was obtained, together with the date on which any check was completed or certificate obtained.

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

- 34(1) The standard about the quality of leadership and management is met if the proprietor ensures that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school-
  - 34(1)(a) demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently;
  - 34(1)(b) fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and
  - 34(1)(c) actively promote the well-being of pupils.

## School details

Unique reference number	100526
DfE registration number	207/6262
Inspection number	10056234

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	Independent school
School status	Independent boarding school
Age range of pupils	13 to 20
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	124
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	123
Number of part-time pupils	None
Proprietor	Astrum Education
Chair	Mark Labovitch
Headteacher	Marwan Mikdadi
Annual fees (day pupils)	£16,000 to £47,000
Telephone number	020 7225 0577
Website	<a href="http://www.kps.co.uk">www.kps.co.uk</a>
Email address	<a href="mailto:m.mikdadi@kps.co.uk">m.mikdadi@kps.co.uk</a>
Date of previous standard inspection	26–28 September 2017

## Information about this school

- Kensington Park School, previously known as Duff Miller College, is an independent, co-educational boarding school for up to 360 pupils aged 13 to 20 years.
- The school's main premises are located in South Kensington, London. The school also makes use of leased classrooms in an adjacent building at Baden Powell House, 65–67 Queen's Gate, South Kensington, London SW7 5JS.



- The school's boarding provision, shared with other schools under the ownership of the proprietor, Astrum Education, is located nearby in Earl's Court, London.
- Students have optional access to off-site sports facilities at Imperial College London's Ethos gym in nearby Knightsbridge, London. The school does not make use of any other alternative provision.
- The school's last full standard integrated inspection was in September 2017.
- From September 2018, the school intends to provide education for pupils aged 11 to 16 at the site of the former Lansdowne College in Bayswater, also owned by Astrum Education. It is intended that the two sites will operate as a single provision under the name of Kensington Park School.

## 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.
- In September 2017, a full standard integrated inspection of the school judged it to be inadequate. The school submitted an action plan. Ofsted's review of this plan judged it to be acceptable. In March 2018, a progress monitoring inspection judged many of the independent school standards as still not met.
- This inspection was the school's second progress monitoring inspection and was conducted remotely.
- The inspection focused on the school's progress against specific requirements within Parts 3, 4 and 8 of the independent school standards.
- The inspector scrutinised the school's single central record of staff recruitment checks, which was submitted to the Department for Education following the progress monitoring inspection in March 2018.
- The inspection did not consider the five recent responses to Ofsted's online survey, Parent View.

## Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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