

Wiznitz Cheder School

126b Stamford Hill, Hackney, London N16 6QT

Inspection dates

24 January 2019

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

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

- The safeguarding policy was recently reviewed and includes reference to the statutory safeguarding guidance. In July 2018, all staff received training on this and signed to say they understand the changes made.
- Teaching staff who spoke with the inspector demonstrated a secure understanding of how to report a concern. They also understand the role of the local authority in safeguarding.
- The school, therefore, meets the standards in Paragraph 7.

Paragraph 9

- Senior leaders, including the headteacher, say that they do not advocate or use corporal punishment in the school. Some members of staff recognised the document the inspector showed them, which does advocate corporal punishment. However, they are adamant that this is not used in the school and does not influence the school's behaviour policy. The inspection found no evidence to the contrary.
- The school's policy on behaviour and sanctions is kept under regular review. It is well understood by established and newer staff. For example, teachers who spoke to the lead inspector provided examples of how pupils are given time to explain themselves if they have behaved poorly, before a sanction is decided.
- Pupils confirmed they are listened to and feel that teachers treat them kindly. The pupils who spoke with the inspector said they feel safe.
- The behaviour policy includes a range of rewards and opportunities to recognise positive behaviour. The sanctions log is recorded in Yiddish. The inspector relied on a leader to explain the comments recorded in the log. This explanation indicates that sanctions align with the school's behaviour policy.
- The school meets the standards in Paragraph 9 of the regulations.

Paragraph 14

- Pupils are supervised appropriately when moving around the school and at breaktimes outside. The staff seen on supervision duty during the inspection remained alert, and

offered effective guidance to pupils, for example when climbing the many stairs in the school.

- Supervision of pupils meets the requirements of the standards. Risk assessments that were scrutinised make specific reference to supervision guidelines for the use of outdoor play equipment, for example.
- The school meets the standards in Paragraph 14 of the regulations.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- The standard in part 3 of the regulations which were in scope for this inspection are met. However, a number of independent school standards were unmet at the time of the last inspection, and compliance with these was not checked. The regulating authority asked for standards in part 8 also to be reported on. These standards in part 8 of the regulations continue to be unmet because of the unmet standards at the previous inspection not checked at this emergency inspection.

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, as set out in the annex of this report. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

School details

Unique reference number	137809
DfE registration number	204/6004
Inspection number	10089310

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	Orthodox Jewish independent school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	3 to 13
Gender of pupils	Boys
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Boys
Number of pupils on the school roll	120
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Viznitz Ltd
Chair	Michael Rosenberg
Headteacher	Rabbi Pesach Taub
Annual fees (day pupils)	No fees charged
Telephone number	020 8809 9513
Email address	admin@viznitzcheder.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	12–14 June 2018

Information about this school

- The school has 120 pupils on roll across the school, which complies with its registration conditions.
- The early years provision is made up of two Nursery classes and one Reception class. All pupils attend full time.
- The school does not use alternative provision.
- Most of the pupils are bilingual, speaking English in addition to their first language of Yiddish.

- The school opened in January 2011.
- At the previous full inspection, a number of independent school standards were found to be unmet, and the school was judged to be inadequate.

Information about this inspection

- Ofsted was asked to conduct this emergency inspection by the regulating authority. The inspector was asked to consider some standards in part 3 of the regulations and those in part 8. The reason for the inspection was that the regulating authority had become aware of a document which condoned corporal punishment and considered that there may be a connection between this document and the school.
- The inspection was conducted with no notice.
- The inspector spoke with members of staff and a number of pupils. He conducted a tour of the school with the headteacher and looked at written documents related to safeguarding.
- The inspector also considered the written policies on staff conduct, pupils' behaviour and safeguarding. He observed pupils during breaktimes, and as they moved around the school, to consider arrangements for their supervision.
- The inspector met with senior leaders to ask about their approach to administering sanctions for poor behaviour. He also looked at the sanctions log maintained by the school.

Inspection team

Andrew Wright, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Annex. Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school does not meet the following independent school standards

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.

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