

Leaways School

18 Theydon Road, Clapton, London E5 9NZ

Inspection dates

26 April 2019

Overall outcome

The school is likely to meet the relevant independent school standards if the material change relating to the school provision is implemented

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b) and 32(1), 32(1)(c)

- The school's approach to safeguarding pupils continues to meet the requirements of the independent school standards.
- Staff at all levels are suitably inducted and trained. Any concerns are raised quickly and shared with those responsible for safeguarding. All concerns and referrals are thoroughly documented.
- Leaders have a strong understanding of the various risks which their pupils face.
- There is a culture of vigilance, and a shared commitment to keep pupils as safe from harm as possible.
- The school's policy reflects the latest statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State, and is published on the school's website.
- Leaders ensure that all relevant vetting checks are undertaken for those who come into contact with pupils. All recruitment checks are recorded accurately on the school's single central register, which meets all current requirements.

Paragraphs 11, 12, 14, 16, 16(a) and 16(b)

- Leaders ensure that the school's health and safety and risk assessment policies are effectively implemented. The building and facilities are clean, safe and well maintained. Risk assessments relating to the premises, classrooms, individual pupils, use of local facilities and educational trips show that due consideration is given to possible risks. Specific actions are taken to reduce risks so as to ensure that pupils are kept as safe as possible.
- Leaders ensure that the school complies with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. All the required checks are undertaken and logged by the school's site manager. These include checks on the fire alarm system, fire safety equipment and emergency lighting. Regular fire drills are conducted and recorded.
- There is likely to be an appropriate deployment of staff to ensure that pupils are

safely supervised. The minimum ratio is one adult to every five pupils.

- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards in this part are likely to continue to be met if the material change is implemented.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

All paragraphs

- The school's premises are clean, safe, secure and well maintained. There are specialist classrooms and social spaces over four floors. These include dedicated areas for primary-aged pupils, and pupils with autism spectrum disorder. The building can comfortably accommodate up to 100 pupils.
- The health, safety and welfare of additional pupils are likely to be assured through the effective implementation of the school's health and safety policy and procedures.
- The requirements in relation to toilet and washing facilities, changing rooms and showers are likely to be met in light of an increase in number.
- The requirements in relation to medical care and first aid are likely to be met as the medical room meets requirements. However, its location is not ideal, and leaders plan to relocate it as part of building works this summer.
- The acoustic conditions, sound insulation and internal and external lighting are suitable throughout the premises.
- Suitably labelled drinking water is available throughout the school day from water coolers, and the temperature of hot water supplies is safely regulated.
- Physical education and outdoor recreational time is made available to all pupils using nearby parks and leisure facilities, which are appropriately risk assessed.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are likely to continue to be met if the material change is implemented.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- The school's leaders have a secure understanding of the independent school standards. They have ensured that all the relevant standards related to the requested material change, including the standard in this part, are likely to continue to be met.
- As a result, the request to increase the number of pupils on the school's roll from 75 to 100 is recommended.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school is likely to meet the requirements of the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements that are relevant to the material change.

School details

Unique reference number	137808
DfE registration number	204/6003
Inspection number	10100966

This inspection was carried out under section 162(4) of the Education Act 2002, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards relevant to the material change that the school has applied to make.

Type of school	Day school for pupils with SEND
School status	Independent special school
Proprietor	Kedleston Group Ltd
Chair	Paul Brosnan
Headteacher	Richard Gadd
Annual fees (day pupils)	£53,000
Telephone number	020 8815 4030
Website	https://kedlestongroup.com/leaways
Email address	leaways@kedlestongroup.com
Date of previous standard inspection	9–11 October 2018

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	7 to 17	No change	Not applicable
Number of pupils on the school roll	75	100	100

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Gender of pupils	Mixed	No change
Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	75	Up to 100
Number of part-time pupils	None	No change
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	75	Up to 100
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	75	Up to 100
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	75	Up to 100

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	20	25
Number of part-time teaching staff	None	No change
Number of staff in the welfare provision	20	25

Information about this school

- Leaways School is an independent special school in the London Borough of Hackney.
- All pupils have an education, health and care plan. This is primarily for their social, emotional and mental health needs. Some have additional diagnoses and needs, such as autism spectrum disorder.

- Pupils are placed and funded by a range of local authorities.
- The school is part of, and governed by, the Kedleston Group. This is overseen by a board of directors, and led by a chief executive officer.
- The school currently makes use of one alternative provider: Ilderton Motor Vehicle Project, Deptford, London SE8 5HB.
- The school's most recent inspection was a full standard inspection in October 2018.

Information about this inspection

- The inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) to consider the school's application to make a material change to its registration.
- The DfE requested that the inspector consider whether particular independent school standards contained within Parts 3, 4, 5 and 8 are likely to be met if the material change is implemented.
- The inspector met with the headteacher, the director of quality and compliance, senior staff with responsibility for safeguarding, and the human resources officer. He toured the premises and reviewed relevant documentation in relation to health and safety, fire safety, risk assessment and safeguarding.
- The inspection took into account the eight recent responses to Ofsted's online survey (Parent View).

Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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