

Avecinna Academy

The Garrison Centre, 106 Garrison Lane, Bordesley, Birmingham B9 4BS

Inspection dates

22 October 2019

Overall outcome

The school does not meet all of the independent school standards that were checked during this inspection

Main inspection findings

Part 1. Quality of education provided

Paragraphs 2(1), 2(1)(a), 2(1)(b), 2(1)(b)(i)

- At the standard inspection in February 2018 and the emergency inspection in April 2019, these standards were met.
- This academic year, leaders have begun to admit pupils to the school that have an education, health and care (EHC) plan. Leaders have not ensured that there is appropriate provision in place for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Leaders have not shared important information with staff, such as what pupils with SEND need to help them learn. Furthermore, staff have not had the training they need to be able to meet the needs of pupils with SEND.
- Leaders have not implemented the strategies that are set out in the pupils' EHC plans. For example, pupils do not have access to one-to-one support, or the information and communication technology that they need to help them learn. Moreover, leaders have not considered how to plan and adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of pupils with SEND.
- Pupils with SEND are not supported well. This is likely to have a negative impact on their academic and personal development. Leaders are aware that the current provision for pupils with SEND is not appropriate, or effective.
- Leaders have not ensured that the standards in this part are met.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

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

- These standards were met at the standard inspection in February 2018 and at the emergency inspection in April 2019.
- Leaders have not made sure that there is a suitable medical room in the school. The school's first aid policy states that medicines will be stored in either a fridge in the medical room or a fridge in the school office. There is no fridge in the medical room or the school office. Instead, leaders store medicine in a fridge in a neighbouring nursery

school that is located within the same building. The nursery is accessed through an internal door that is locked.

- Leaders do not have an appropriate means of storing medicines. Staff do not have immediate access to pupils' medicine. This could pose a significant health risk to pupils who need urgent medical treatment.
- In other areas of the school, leaders have created a safe environment. They ensure that all staff understand their responsibility to keep pupils safe. All staff receive regular safeguarding training.
- Leaders understand the potential risks pupils face outside school. For example, they understand the dangers of knife crime and county lines. Leaders ensure that pupils are aware of these dangers, and they help them to make sensible choices.
- Leaders have not ensured that standards in this part are met.

Paragraphs 32(1), 32(1)(c) [Part 6. Provision of information]

- The school has a safeguarding policy that reflects the current government guidelines. The policy is not currently available on the school's website as the website is under construction. The school's safeguarding policy is available upon request from the school.
- Leaders have made sure that this standard is met.

Paragraph 13, 16, 16(a), 16(b)

- At the emergency inspection in April 2019, inspectors found that leaders had not made sure that the administration of medication was logged in sufficient detail. In addition, leaders had not made sure that risk assessments were completed for all trips and visits and that existing risk assessments were routinely updated.
- The school has a clear first aid policy. However, previously, when pupils were given medicine, leaders did not keep a detailed record of this. For example, the logs did not record whether medicine had been administered earlier in the day.
- Leaders' actions to improve the way medicine is administered and information is recorded have been effective. They have updated the form staff use to record when medication is given to pupils. Staff have been trained to administer medicine and record information appropriately. Before any medicine is given to pupils, leaders seek parental consent. Once medicine has been administered, staff record the name of the medicine, the time it was administered, and the dosage given. This form is signed by the member of staff administering the medication. It is then countersigned by the headteacher.
- Leaders provide pupils with a range of learning experiences outside of school. For example, they have recently organised trips to a careers fair and a theme park. Previously, leaders did not carry out detailed risk assessments for all educational visits.
- Leaders have reviewed the school's risk assessment policy, and the procedures for carrying out risk assessments. They have introduced appropriate training for staff. Staff now understand the importance of completing risk assessments for all educational visits. They also know what should be included in an effective risk assessment. Staff now carry out detailed risk assessments in advance of all educational visits and they identify potential hazards. This helps to keep pupils safe.
- Leaders have ensured that these standards are now met.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 24(1), 24(1)(b)

- At the standard inspection in February 2018 and the emergency inspection in April 2019, these standards were met.
- The school has a medical room which is located on the first floor and near to a toilet. The room is equipped with a bed, and a first aid kit. However, the room does not have a washing facility. This prevents the room from being used appropriately.
- Leaders have not ensured that the standards in this part are met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- At the emergency inspection in April 2019, these standards were not met because leaders have not made sure that all of the independent school standards were met consistently and continually.
- Leaders have responded to the unmet standards identified during the previous inspection. Detailed records are now kept when medicine is administered to pupils, and thorough risk assessments are carried out for all school visits.
- However, there are other standards that are now not met. The school's medical room is not compliant as it does not have a washing facility, and the school's method for storing medicine is inappropriate. This leads to some concerns about the welfare, health and safety of pupils.
- Pupils with SEND are not provided with the support that they need in lessons. This is likely to have a negative impact on their academic and personal development.
- Leaders have not ensured that the independent school standards are consistently met. Therefore, the standards in this part are not met.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

- Leaders are aware of their duty to promote equality. They have an accessibility plan. However, they have not explained what they will do to make sure that all pupils, including those with SEND, have the same opportunities as everyone else. For example, they do not have plans to make the school building, or the curriculum, fully accessible to all pupils.

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. 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.

School details

Unique reference number	140382
DfE registration number	330/6016
Inspection number	10119189

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	Other independent school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	11 to 17
Gender of pupils	Boys
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Boys
Number of pupils on the school roll	34
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	0
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Mohamed Dahir
Chair	Sakhawat Ali
Headteacher	Mr N Khan
Annual fees (day pupils)	£2,400 per annum
Telephone number	0121 771 4782
Website	www.avecinnaacademy.com
Email address	enquiries@avecinnaacademy.com
Date of previous standard inspection	30 January–1 February 2018

Information about this school

- The school's last full inspection was on 30 January to 1 February 2018.
- The school has an Islamic ethos.
- The school does not use any alternative provision.

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 school was previously inspected on 3 April 2019. This was an emergency inspection. The school was judged to not comply with the independent school standards.
- This was the school's first progress monitoring inspection. The inspection was conducted without notice.
- The Department for Education (DfE) required the school to prepare an action plan. This was a statutory requirement.
- The school's action plan was evaluated by Ofsted on 8 July 2019.
- The DfE accepted the school's action plan on 5 August 2019.
- During the inspection, the inspector met with the proprietor, the headteacher and the deputy headteacher. The inspector toured the school and met with members of staff and pupils. The inspector reviewed the school's procedures for keeping pupils safe. The inspector scrutinised school documents, including risk assessments for trips and visits, and the school's policy for administering medicine.

Inspection team

Niall Gallagher, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Annex. Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school does not meet the following independent school standards

Standards that were not met at the previous inspection and remain unmet at this inspection

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.

Standards that were met at the previous inspection, but are now judged to not be met at this inspection

Part 1. Quality of education provided

- 2(1) The standard in this paragraph is met if-
 - 2(1)(a) the proprietor ensures that a written policy on the curriculum, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work, which provides for the matters specified in sub-paragraph (2) is drawn up and implemented effectively; and
 - 2(1)(b) the written policy, plans and schemes of work-
 - 2(1)(b)(i) take into account the ages, aptitudes and needs of all pupils, including those pupils with an EHC plan.

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.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

- 24(1) The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that suitable accommodation is provided in order to cater for the medical and therapy needs of pupils, including-

- 24(1)(b) accommodation for the short term care of sick and injured pupils, which includes a washing facility and is near to a toilet facility.

The school now meets the following requirements of the independent school standards

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- 13 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that first aid is administered in a timely and competent manner by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written first aid policy.
- 16 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that:
 - 16(a) 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
 - 16(b) appropriate action is taken to reduce risks that are identified.

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