

Abbey Rose School

Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire GL20 7DG

Inspection dates

5 December 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)–(b)

- The proprietor has not ensured that the school's safeguarding policy complies with the latest guidance issued by the Secretary of State. The requirements set out in both 'Keeping children safe in education', 2019, and the statutory arrangements for children missing in education have not been followed for absent pupils.
- The roles and responsibilities for safeguarding are not clearly defined. The designated leader for safeguarding has not yet had the training she needs.
- However, the proprietor has taken action to train staff in basic awareness and procedures. Further staff training is planned to increase awareness about radicalisation and extremism.
- Leaders were unable to provide a safer recruitment policy or defined procedure. For recently appointed staff, checks are missing and there are no risk assessments in place.
- The proprietor has not ensured that there is a suitably qualified designated teacher for children looked after by the local authority. This is of particular importance in this setting, where the majority of pupils are in the sole or joint care of local authorities.
- The standard in this paragraph is not met.

Paragraph 9

- The behaviour policy has not been updated since the standard inspection in November 2019. The policy sets out that the school's chosen approach does not use sanctions.
- When incidents of poor behaviour do occur, staff give insufficient thought to the triggers or underlying reasons. Although the behaviour management system records the nature of pupils' misbehaviour and the observations leading up to each incident, actions to support pupils' behaviour are not bringing about improvements. Consequently, disruptive behaviours and swearing persist.
- The standard in this paragraph is not met.

Paragraphs 11, 12 and 16

- The health and safety policy has not been updated since the previous standard inspection. The fire safety equipment checks carried out on the day of this inspection, and the day before, revealed several faults. The full range of checks required have not been completed and the record of the checks done lacks the necessary detail.
- The effectiveness of pupils' personal emergency evacuation plans, which was raised at the previous inspection, has not been reviewed.
- The risk assessment policy has not been updated. Risk assessments for off-site activities, such as rock climbing, horse riding and trampolining are generic and do not consider the particular needs of individual pupils.
- The standards in these paragraphs are not met.

Paragraph 14

- The number of pupils attending the school has reduced since the inspection in November 2019. However, the number of staff has been maintained. Consequently, there are high staff to pupil ratios and pupils are effectively supervised throughout the school day.
- The standard in this paragraph is met.

Paragraph 15

- Leaders have not maintained an admissions register that meets the requirements set out in the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. Information about the parents and carers of each pupil is incomplete. Where pupils have moved away from the school, the name of the new school and date started, or intended to start, is not recorded. Amendments to the register do not include the original entry, the reason why the amendment was made, the date the amendment was made and the name and position of the person making the change.
- The standard in this paragraph is not met.

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

Paragraphs 18(2), 18(2)(a)–(e), 18(3), 21(3) and 21(3)(a)–(b)

- Leaders have not checked that all teaching staff are not prohibited from teaching. For one recently appointed member of staff, none of the necessary checks are recorded on the single central register.
- The standards relating to suitability of staff to work with pupils are not met.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 25

- The deficiencies of the fire safety arrangements and other missing safety checks mean that the health, safety and welfare of pupils on the premises cannot be assured.
- The standard in this paragraph is not met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a)–(c)

- The proprietor and school leaders have not had the training they need to improve their understanding of the independent school standards. Consequently, they do not demonstrate that they have gained the knowledge they need to effect the necessary changes and monitor their implementation.
- All bar one of the standards checked during this emergency inspection are unmet.
- The standard in this part is not met.

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	146524
DfE registration number	916/6023
Inspection number	10132055

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 special school
Age range of pupils	8 to 19
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	5
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	0
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Orbis Education and Care Ltd
Chair	Mike Currier
Interim headteacher	Sarah Russell
Annual fees (day pupils)	£70,000 to £95,000
Telephone number	01684 217770
Website	www.orbis-group.co.uk/abbey-rose-gloucester
Email address	lucy.pottinger@orbis-group.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	5–7 November 2019

Information about this school

- Abbey Rose School is operated by Orbis Education and Care Limited. The proprietor also operates four schools in Wales.
- The school was registered and opened on 14 March 2019. The first standard inspection of the school was carried out in November 2019, when the school was judged to be

inadequate.

- The school does not use any alternative provision. It does not use any off-site unit.
- There are currently no pupils in the sixth-form provision.
- The school offers education for pupils with a formal diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder or associated needs. All have an education, health and care plan or are about to have one. All are placed at the school by their respective local authority.

Information about this inspection

- This emergency inspection was carried out at the request of the registration authority for independent schools as a result of concerns regarding pupils' welfare and safety.
- The inspection was carried out with no notice.
- The inspection focused on the pupils' health, safety and welfare, safeguarding arrangements, school leadership and governance.
- The inspector met with the interim headteacher, who is also the designated safeguarding lead. The inspector also met with the newly appointed headteacher, the deputy designated safeguarding lead, members of staff and the head of business development. The inspector spoke with one of the directors who represents the proprietor.
- The inspector analysed a range of documentation provided by the school.

Inspection team

Iain Freeland, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Annex. Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school does not meet 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.
- 9 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor promotes good behaviour amongst pupils by ensuring that—
 - 9(a) a written behaviour policy is drawn up that, amongst other matters, sets out the sanctions to be adopted in the event of pupil misbehaviour;
 - 9(b) the policy is implemented effectively; and
 - 9(c) a record is kept of the sanctions imposed upon pupils for serious misbehaviour.
- 11 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that relevant health and safety laws are complied with by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written health and safety policy.
- 12 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- 15 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006.
- 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.

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)(b) no such person carries out work, or intends 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;

- 18(2)(c) the proprietor carries out appropriate checks to confirm in respect of each such person—
 - 18(2)(c)(i) the person’s identity;
 - 18(2)(c)(ii) the person’s medical fitness;
 - 18(2)(c)(iii) the person’s right to work in the United Kingdom; and
 - 18(2)(c)(iv) where appropriate, the person’s qualifications;
- 18(2)(d) the proprietor ensures that, where relevant to any such person, an enhanced criminal record check is made in respect of that person and an enhanced criminal record certificate is obtained before or as soon as practicable after that person’s appointment;
- 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;
- 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.
- 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)(iii) a check was made to establish whether S is subject to 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 such a direction;
 - 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(3)(b) in relation to each member of staff (“S”), whether a check was made to establish whether S is subject to a prohibition order or an interim prohibition order, including the date on which such check was completed.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

- 25 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that the school premises and the accommodation and facilities provided therein are maintained to a

standard such that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils are ensured.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Raising concerns and making a complaint about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/publications/complaints-about-ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

Parent View

You can use Parent View to give Ofsted your opinion on your child's school. Ofsted will use the information parents and carers provide when deciding which schools to inspect and when and as part of the inspection.

You can also use Parent View to find out what other parents and carers think about schools in England. You can visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk, or look for the link on the main Ofsted website: www.gov.uk/ofsted.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2019