

Talmud Torah London

69 Amhurst Park, London N16 5AW

Inspection dates

9 February 2021

Overall outcome

The school meets the independent school standards relevant to the material change. The material change has already been implemented

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b), 32(1) and 31(1)(c)

- The emergency inspection in October 2020 noted that leaders had updated the school's safeguarding policy. It judged that the policy was suitably comprehensive. It reflected the most recent guidance from the government about keeping children safe and COVID-19 (coronavirus) precautions. However, not all the standards listed above were met. This was because improvements to the premises had not been completed.
- This inspection finds that the standards relevant to the material change are now met. The safeguarding policy remains comprehensive. It provides clear guidance to staff and names the designated safeguarding lead. Local authority contact details and safeguarding officers' roles are explicitly identified.
- All staff have read both the policy and government guidance. Leaders record this information, and the dates of safeguarding training, on the single central register. The policy is available to parents on request.
- Improvements to the building, including for fire safety, help to ensure that the school's safeguarding arrangements are effective.
- The school is likely to continue to meet the independent school standards if the Department for Education (DfE) decides to approve implementation of the material change.

Paragraphs 11, 12, 13, 16, 16(a) and 16(b)

- The previous inspection noted that leaders had updated the health and safety policy including information about COVID-19. In addition, risk assessments had been carried out in relation to the building. Work was being carried out to meet fire safety requirements. However, the building was not in a satisfactory state to accommodate pupils. As a result, not all the standards listed above were met.
- This inspection finds that leaders have completed remedial work to the building. Emergency exit and lighting, and fire door signs, are all in place. Leaders continue to carry out risk assessments and act on any identified weaknesses. For example, all

doors have been replaced with fire doors. Leaders have also commissioned a new fire risk assessment. This shows that the work to improve fire safety is complete and that the premises meet the legal requirements.

- The independent school standards are likely to continue to be met if the DfE decides to approve implementation of the material change.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraphs 22 - 30

- At the last inspection, the independent school standards in this part were not met. This was because the premises did not ensure the health, safety and welfare of pupils. In addition, the medical room was not close enough to a toilet.
- This inspection finds that all deficiencies to the building have been rectified. The new fire doors on the stairs are fitted with automatic closures that operate if there is a fire. Hot water is available in all the toilets and is set to an appropriate temperature. Access to the toilet from the medical room is now adequate. The building is appropriately maintained.
- The independent school standards are likely to continue to be met if the DfE approves implementation of the material change. This includes paragraphs 24(1), 24(1)(b), 25, 28(1) and 28(1)(b).

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraphs 34(1) – 34(1)(c)

- Leaders and the proprietor take their responsibilities for pupils' health and safety seriously. They have ensured the school meets fire regulation and the independent school standards, including those linked to this material change.
- Leaders have ensured that the arrangements to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare are effective.
- Leaders have increased the number of pupils on the school's roll. There are approximately 35 pupils being educated in school in the current circumstances. This is above the figure for which the school is registered. However, improvements since the last inspection mean that the premises can now accommodate 100 pupils safely. For example, all seven classrooms are now suitable for teaching pupils. In addition, the building meets the necessary health, safety and welfare requirements.
- The independent school standards are likely to continue to be met if the DfE decides to approve implementation of the material change.

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 are relevant to the material change.

School details

Unique reference number	142572
DfE registration number	204/6012
Inspection number	10176981

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 compliance with the independent school standards relevant to the material change that the school has applied to make.

Type of school	Other independent school
School status	Independent school
Proprietor	Talmud Torah London Ltd
Chair	Alexander Halpert
Headteacher	Mr Chaim Schachter
Annual fees (day pupils)	Variable according to the context of the family
Telephone number	0203 322 7879
Website	None
Email address	talmudtorahlondon@gmail.com
Date of previous standard inspection	15–17 January 2019

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	5 to 11	5 to 11	5 to 11
Number of pupils on the school roll	54	100	100

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Gender of pupils	Boys	Boys

Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	54	100
Number of part-time pupils	0	Not applicable
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	22	22
Of which, number of pupils with a statement of special educational needs or an education, health and care plan	4	4
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with a statement of special educational needs or an education, health and care plan	1	1

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	12	20
Number of part-time teaching staff	6	10
Number of staff in the welfare provision	Not applicable	Not applicable

Information about this school

- Talmud Torah is a Jewish faith school taking pupils from the Orthodox Chassidic community of Hackney, in north London. It moved to new premises at 69 Amhurst Park, London N16 5AW in September 2020, but without agreement from the DfE or planning permission from the local authority.
- The proprietor has recently submitted a planning application to the local authority to use the building as a school. The application has not yet been approved.
- The school is registered to provide 20 places to boys aged five to 11. There are currently 67 pupils on roll.

- The school is in breach of its registration agreement.
- The school does not use any alternative provision.
- The school has four pupils with an education, health and care plan.
- The school's last full inspection was in January 2019, when it was judged to be good. A material change inspection was carried out in November 2019. This inspection found that the school met the independent school standards relevant to the material change. This was for the previous premises at 89 Lordship Park, London N16 5UP.
- An emergency inspection was carried out in October 2020 at the Amhurst Park building following a fire. At that time, not all the independent school standards checked were met.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the Department for Education to consider the school's application for a material change to the location of the school's premises and registered address to 69 Amhurst Park, London N16 5AW. The inspection also considered the school's application for a material change to increase the number of pupils on roll from 20 to 100.
- The inspection was conducted with two days' notice.
- The focus of the inspection was to consider whether the independent school standards in Parts 3, 5 and 8 were likely to be met if the proposed material changes were approved.
- The inspector met with the headteacher and proprietor to discuss how they ensured that the independent school standards were met.
- The inspector considered the written policies for safeguarding, health and safety and risk assessments. The inspector toured the building with the headteacher.

Inspection team

Brian Oppenheim, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
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