

The Holmewood School London

88 Woodside Park Road, London N12 8SH and 8a Muswell Hill, London N10 3TD

Inspection date

15 June 2021

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

Paragraph 7(a) and 7(b)

- The previous inspection reported that 'the school's designated safeguarding leaders are knowledgeable, accessible and proactive. They take safeguarding extremely seriously and facilitate a culture of vigilance'. This inspection confirms this still to be the case. Leaders continue to implement their child protection policy, updated in light of the latest statutory guidance, effectively.
- Pupils say they feel safe in their school. They continue to regularly learn about how to keep safe, including when online and using their mobile phones.

Paragraphs 11 and 12

- The school's suitable health and safety policy is implemented well. Actions identified in external fire risk assessment reports have been completed, and all the required fire safety checks are logged at both premises as per the requirements of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

Paragraph 14

- Arrangements for the supervision of pupils is suitable. On average, there is an adult for every two pupils. Leaders have planned for this to continue if the number of pupils increases to 80.

Paragraph 16(a) and 16(b)

- The school's suitable risk assessment policy is implemented well. Both premises, and the activities that go on within them, are thoroughly risk assessed. Suitable actions are in place to effectively mitigate the possible risks.
- The independent school standards in this part are met, and are likely to continue to be met, if the material change is implemented.

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

All paragraphs

- Pre-employment checks on the adults working in the organisation are completed and recorded accurately on the school's single central register, in line with statutory guidance.
- The independent school standards in this part are met, and are likely to continue to be met, if the material change is implemented.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

All paragraphs

- The lower school, also the school's main premises, has been refurbished since the previous inspection. In particular, toilet, medical room, shower and playground facilities have all been upgraded, as has lighting throughout. The premises continue to meet all the requirements in this part.
- The new upper school premises provide a tranquil, attractive setting, which pupils speak very positively about. The various outside spaces, including seating around a large pond and controlled access to a forest area, have been suitably assessed for the risks they present. Internally, all the requirements relating to lighting, acoustics and toilet, washing and medical facilities are met. Pupils access shower and changing facilities off site, as all physical education takes place in local facilities.
- The new premises are larger than the previous building and are currently full, as all pupils aged 14 to 19 now attend this site. This provides more capacity at the lower school for the intended increase in numbers.
- The independent school standards in this part are met, and are likely to continue to be met, if the material change is implemented.

Part 6. Provision of information

Paragraph 32(1)(c)

- This requirement continues to be met because the school's child protection policy is available online.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1)(a–c)

- Leaders have a thorough understanding of the independent school standards. They have planned effectively to accommodate an increase in capacity by setting up new, suitable upper school premises.
- The independent school standard in this part, as in all the other parts checked, is met and likely to continue to be met, if the material change is implemented.

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.

School details

Unique reference number	136263
DfE registration number	302/6201
Inspection number	10181904

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	All-through day school for pupils with ASD
School status	Independent special school
Proprietor	Cavendish Education Ltd
Chair	Aatif Hassan
Headteacher	Lisa Camilleri
Annual fees (day pupils)	£68,790
Telephone number	020 8920 0660
Website	www.thsl.org.uk
Email address	enquiries@thsl.org.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	23 to 25 January 2018

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	7 to 19	No change	Not applicable
Number of pupils on the school roll	67	80	80

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Gender of pupils	Mixed	No change

Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	49	Up to 80
Number of part-time pupils	None	No change
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	67	Up to 80
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	66	Up to 80
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	66	Up to 80

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	16	17
Number of part-time teaching staff	6	8
Number of staff in the welfare provision	42	45

Information about this school

- The Holmewood School London is an independent special day school in the London Borough of Barnet. Its main premises continue to be at 88 Woodside Park Road, London N12 8SH and its new additional premises are at 8a Muswell Hill, London N10 3TD. The school currently makes no use of its premises at 90 East End Road, London N3 2SY.
- All pupils have, or are being assessed for, an education, health and care plan for their autism spectrum disorders. Almost all pupils are placed and funded by a range of local authorities.

- The school is part of, and governed by, Cavendish Education Ltd. The school is overseen by a board of directors, led by a chief executive officer.
- The school makes use of five external providers of further education for students in the sixth form, who attend them on a part-time basis with support. They are Barnet College, Barnet EN5 4AZ, West London College, London W14 9BL, London Academy, Larkhall SW4 6JP, Christ's College, Finchley N2 0SE and Black Horse Workshops, London E17 6BX.
- The school's most recent inspection was a full standard inspection in January 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 agreement. The requested change was to increase pupil numbers from 70 to 80.
- The inspection was conducted with two days' notice and was the first material change inspection to consider the school's application to increase its number of pupils.
- The DfE requested that the inspector consider whether particular independent school standards contained within Parts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 are likely to be met if the material change is implemented.
- The inspector had meetings with the executive headteacher, head of upper school, designated safeguarding leader and human resources officer. He also met with the organisation's director for compliance. He toured both premises and reviewed relevant documentation in relation to safeguarding, health and safety, fire safety and risk assessment. These included policies, procedures, logs and the single central register.
- The inspector met with a group of pupils at each of the school's sites to discuss their safety, welfare and well-being.
- There were no recent responses on Ofsted's online questionnaire, Parent View, to consider.

Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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