

Lubavitch Yeshiva Ketanah of London

1117 Finchley Road, London NW11 0QB

Inspection dates

13 December 2022

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), 2(2), 2(2)(a), 2(2)(e)–2(2)(e)(iii), 2(2)(h), 2(2)(i), 3, 3(a), 3(b), 3(c), 3(d), 3(e), 3(f), 3(g) and 4

- At the school's last standard inspection in November 2021, the range of secular subjects available to pupils remained narrow. In their secular education sessions, pupils only received regular teaching in English, mathematics and science. Leaders had not ensured that these subjects were well planned, sequenced and assessed. Subjects such as history, technology and physical education were not routinely taught. No plans were in place for creative education. Leaders provided pupils with too few cultural, creative or artistic experiences. Pupils did not benefit from accurate and impartial information about different careers. As a result, pupils underachieved significantly in the secular subjects and were not well prepared for life in modern Britain.
- This inspection found that pupils continue to receive only 90 minutes of secular education each day. This is not enough. Pupils continue to only receive teaching in English, mathematics and science. Curriculum thinking in these subjects is weak. Leaders do not set out the knowledge they want pupils to learn and the order they should learn it. An external provider teaches physical education weekly, but leaders do not know what, or if, a curriculum is being used and taught. Pupils continue to not build up knowledge and understanding in the narrow range of subjects taught. Leaders do not provide pupils with creative, technological or human and social education.
- Leaders have not put in place suitable approaches to check and improve how well pupils learn. Assessment arrangements continue to be very basic. Leaders do not routinely identify if pupils need additional help with their learning, including whether they may have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Leaders do not provide teachers with training so that they know how to teach the secular subjects well.
- Leaders have not improved the arrangements to provide pupils with careers guidance. Pupils still do not receive up-to-date and impartial information on the options available to them when they leave school. Leaders have not increased pupils' access to cultural,

creative or artistic experiences. Pupils are therefore still not well prepared for life in modern British society.

- The independent school standards ('the standards') checked in this part remain not met. The school has repeatedly failed to meet the same unmet standards.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7–7(b) and 32(1), 32(1)(c)

- At the previous inspection, safeguarding arrangements were judged to be effective. This inspection found that leaders continue to work effectively to keep pupils safe.
- Leaders and staff receive appropriate safeguarding training. Leaders know about the possible risks pupils may face and know what to do if they have concerns. Leaders are ready to take appropriate and timely action to manage any potential safeguarding issues.
- The school's policy and procedures are in line with current statutory guidance. The safeguarding policy is emailed to parents and carers and is also readily available in hard copy.
- These standards continue to be met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- The previous inspection again judged leadership and management to be inadequate. Insufficient oversight from the proprietor and governors meant that long-standing weaknesses in the secular curriculum had not been addressed. The proprietor, governors and leaders had not made sure that the independent school standards were met.
- This inspection found the proprietor, governors and leaders have made no tangible improvements since the previous inspection.
- However, a new head of secular education was appointed in August 2022. Leaders shared a willingness to increase the time devoted to the secular curriculum, broaden the range of subjects offered, and substantially improve the quality of education. Leaders plan to introduce a programme of impartial careers guidance. They also intend to provide pupils with more cultural and creative experiences. The proprietor, governors and leaders have not yet put the plans in place. It is therefore far too early to know if the long-standing weaknesses are likely to be addressed. The school has continually failed to meet the unmet standards over time.
- All the unmet standards, including the standard in this part, remain 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. 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	144727
DfE registration number	302/6012
Inspection number	10250596

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	Orthodox Jewish secondary day school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	13 to 16
Gender of pupils	Boys
Number of pupils on the school roll	35
Number of part-time pupils	None
Proprietor	Yitzchok Sufrin
Headteacher	Rabbi Moishe Zavdi
Annual fees (day pupils)	£6,000
Telephone number	020 3409 1853
Website	None
Email address	office@mechina.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	16 to 18 November 2021

Information about this school

- Lubavitch Yeshiva Katanah of London is a secondary day school for boys of Orthodox Jewish faith. The school is located in the London Borough of Barnet. It is registered for up to 60 boys between the ages of 13 and 16.
- Responsibility for the school lies with the sole proprietor, who delegates responsibility for governance to a governing body.
- The school does not use any alternative provision.
- The last inspection was a standard inspection, which took place in November 2021.

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.
- This was the first progress monitoring inspection since the school's previous standard inspection in November 2021. It was conducted without notice.
- The focus of the inspection was to check whether the school complied with particular requirements within Parts 1, 3, 6 and 8 of the independent school standards.
- The inspector met with the school's senior leaders, including the headteacher and head of secular education. The inspector had meetings to discuss safeguarding and the curriculum. He toured the premises and met with a group of pupils. He also spoke with the proprietor by telephone. The inspector reviewed a range of evidence, including policies and curriculum plans, to check compliance with some of the independent school standards.
- There were no recent responses to Ofsted's online survey (Parent View) to consider as part of this inspection.

Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted 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 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.
- 2(2) For the purposes of paragraph (2)(1)(a), the matters are-
 - 2(2)(a) full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age (construed in accordance with section 8 of the Education Act 1996), which gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education;
 - 2(2)(e) for pupils receiving secondary education, access to accurate, up-to-date careers guidance that-
 - 2(2)(e)(i) is presented in an impartial manner;
 - 2(2)(e)(ii) enables them to make informed choices about a broad range of career options; and
 - 2(2)(e)(iii) helps to encourage them to fulfil their potential;
 - 2(2)(h) that all pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress;
 - 2(2)(i) effective preparation of pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society.
- 3 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that the teaching at the school-
 - 3(a) enables pupils to acquire new knowledge and make good progress according to their ability so that they increase their understanding and develop their skills in the subjects taught;
 - 3(b) fosters in pupils self-motivation, the application of intellectual, physical and creative effort, interest in their work and the ability to think and learn for themselves;

- 3(c) involves well planned lessons and effective teaching methods, activities and management of class time;
 - 3(d) shows a good understanding of the aptitudes, needs and prior attainments of the pupils, and ensures that these are taken into account in the planning of lessons;
 - 3(e) demonstrates good knowledge and understanding of the subject matter being taught;
 - 3(f) utilises effectively classroom resources of a good quality, quantity and range;
 - 3(g) demonstrates that a framework is in place to assess pupils' work regularly and thoroughly and use information from that assessment to plan teaching so that pupils can progress.
- 4 The standard in this paragraph is met where the proprietor ensures that a framework for pupil performance to be evaluated, by reference to the school's own aims as provided to parents or national norms, or to both, is in place.

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.

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