

Kirby Moor School

Longtown Road, Brampton, Cumbria CA8 2AB

Inspection date

8 March 2023

Overall outcome

The school meets all of the independent school standards that were checked during this inspection

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

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

- The proprietor body has paid attention to the most up-to-date statutory guidance for safeguarding children. A suitable and up-to-date policy is in place. The policy is published on the school's website. Leaders have established all the necessary arrangements to keep pupils safe and to promote their welfare at the school.
- Three members of staff are trained as designated safeguarding leads (DSLs). All staff receive appropriate induction, safeguarding training and regular updates on areas such as radicalisation and extremism, child sexual exploitation, the sharing of nude and semi-nude images and e-safety.
- When required, the DSLs liaise closely with external agencies. Records in regard to safeguarding and welfare are up to date, thorough and meticulously kept.
- All staff have recently had refresher training on the positive handling of pupils, and if needed, the use of restraint. Again, records are detailed and rigorously kept in the event that these strategies are required.

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

- The proprietor body has a written health and safety policy which is tailored to the premises of the school. It complies with all the relevant legislation. Additionally, the proprietor body commissions a regular external health and safety audit. Any actions arising from the audit are swiftly and assiduously dealt with. The proprietor body has rigorous systems in place to closely monitor all aspects of health and safety in school.
- The proprietor body has an appropriate first-aid policy in place. All staff have successfully completed first-aid training. Additionally, a senior member of staff on each of the two school sites has completed advanced first-aid training.
- There are a number of first-aid kits that are easily accessible at both school sites. Records of any accidents or injuries are completed fastidiously.
- A written risk assessment policy is in place. A comprehensive range of risk assessments show that leaders take well-considered actions to minimise any risks to

pupils. This includes risk assessments for the school buildings, events and activities. Risk assessments for individual pupils are particularly detailed.

Paragraph 14

- Pupils are always supervised, including at breaktimes, when arriving at school and when leaving the school premises. This includes, if required, pupils having two members of staff with them at all times.
- The school meets the independent school standards (the standards) relevant to the wider issues raised by the complaint.
- Leaders have ensured that all the standards that the Department for Education (DfE) requested to be checked in this part are met.

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

Paragraphs 18(2)–18(2)(c)(iv), 18(2)(d), 18(2)(e), 18(3), 19(2)–19(2)(a)(ii), 19(2)(b)–19(2)(d)(ii), 19(3), 20(6), 20(6)(a)–20(6)(a)(ii), 20(6)(b)–20(6)(b)(iii), 20(6)(c), 21(1)–21(3)(a)(viii), 21(3)(b), 21(4), 21(5)–21(5)(c), 21(6), 21(7)–21(7)(b)

- The single central record (SCR) is in place and contains all the required information.
- Records relating to the proprietor body are included on the school's SCR. All the suitability checks, including those relating to the leadership and management of the school, have also been carried out.
- The proprietor body and school leaders have completed appropriate safer recruitment training to support the appointment of suitable staff to work in a school. Induction documentation for new staff makes it clear that they undergo a full suite of safeguarding, and related training, upon appointment and throughout their careers at the school.
- Leaders do not employ agency staff or have volunteers in school. However, if ever they did, they are clear about the procedures they should follow to ensure that these staff are suitable to work with pupils.
- The school meets the standards relevant to the wider issues raised by the complaint.
- All the standards in this part are met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1)–34(1)(c)

- Leaders and the proprietor body have ensured that the school meets all of the independent school standards that were covered in the scope of this inspection. It is evident that the promotion of pupils' safeguarding and well-being is paramount.
- Leaders and the proprietor body are conscientious in their responsibilities, instigating a cycle of regular monitoring, as well as taking opportunities to review and revise documents as they arise. For example, adding safeguarding updates as they occur and reviewing risk assessments regularly.
- There is a thorough system in place for the proprietor body to quality assure the work of the school through visits, scrutiny of documentation and meetings. They hold school leaders to account, offering them both comprehensive support and rigorous challenge.

- Leaders demonstrate a high level of expertise in running this independent school successfully. They have a wealth of experience of, and a strong commitment to, providing a first-class quality of education for pupils.
- The school meets the standard relevant to the wider issues raised by the complaint.
- The standard in this part is met.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

- The proprietor body has ensured that there is a suitable accessibility plan that meets the requirements of paragraph 3 of schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

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 were checked during this inspection. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

School details

Unique reference number	135410
DfE registration number	909/6056
Inspection number	10279406

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 special school
School status	Independent special school
Age range of pupils	7 to 18
Gender of pupils	Boys
Number of pupils on the school roll	53
Proprietor	North Lakes Children's Services
Chair	Jo August
Headteacher	Karen Blaylock
Annual fees (day pupils)	£41,000 to £42,250
Telephone number	01697 742 598
Website	www.nlcs.uk.com
Email address	karen.blaylock@nlcs.uk.com
Date of previous standard inspection	21 to 23 September 2021

Information about this school

- The previous standard inspection was carried out from 21 to 23 September 2021.
- The school operates on two sites. The main school site is located at Longtown Road, Brampton, Cumbria, CA8 2AB. The second site is at Herdley Bank Annexe, Coanwood, Northumberland, NE49 0QU.
- The school caters for pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs. All pupils have an education, health and care plan.
- The school does not use alternative provision.
- There are no sixth-form students on roll at the school currently.

Information about this inspection

- This emergency inspection was commissioned by the DfE following a complaint.
- This inspection was conducted without notice.
- The DfE requested that the inspector report on the standards in respect of safeguarding, the welfare, health and safety of pupils and leadership and management.
- The inspector met with the headteacher, the deputy headteacher, the special educational needs coordinator and the director for quality and learning. She also met with the executive headteacher.
- The inspector held a telephone meeting with the proprietor. She also spoke with the local authority designated officer.
- The inspector made a tour of the school to check welfare and supervision arrangements. She also reviewed a wide range of documents and policies relating to welfare, health and safety.
- A scrutiny of the safeguarding procedures, including recruitment processes and checks, was also completed.

Inspection team

Sue Eastwood, lead inspector

His Majesty's Inspector

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