

Kimichi School

Eastbourne House, 111 Yardley Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham, West Midlands B27 6LL

Inspection date

12 September 2023

Overall outcome

The school meets 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(1)(b)(ii), 2(2), 2(2)(a), 2(2)(b), 2(2)(d), 2(2)(d)(i), 2(2)(d)(ii), 2(2)(g), 2(2)(h) 2(2)(i)

- There is an appropriate curriculum policy in place that outlines a broad curriculum offer. The schemes of work and associated planning take into account the ages and aptitudes of the pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).
- Pupils study a wide range of subjects that include the required areas of learning. This enables them to develop speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills.
- The personal, social, health and economic education delivered reflects the school's aims and is incorporated into their 'life' curriculum.
- The programme of activities for pupils in the sixth form is suitable. Leaders ensure that this programme is both ambitious and appropriate to their needs and interests.
- All pupils are given appropriate opportunities and support to enable them to learn and make progress.

Paragraphs 2(2), 2(2)(e), 2(2)(e)(i), 2(2)(e)(ii) 2(2)(e)

- All pupils receive weekly careers lessons. Leaders supplement lessons with various events, such as careers fairs and having guest speakers in school from a broad range of careers.
- Leaders endeavour to ensure that older pupils have the opportunity for external work experience.

Paragraphs 2A (1), 2A(1)(b), 2A(1)(d), 2A(1)(e), 2A(1)(f), 2A(1)(g) 2A(2)

- There is an appropriate policy and scheme of work to deliver the statutory relationships education for primary-aged pupils and relationships and sex education (RSE) for secondary-aged pupils. It is published on the school website and outlines age-appropriate content.
- The RSE policy outlines the right for parents and carers to withdraw their child partially or wholly from sex education lessons.

Paragraphs 3, 3(a), 3(b), 3(c), 3(d), 3(e), 3(f), 3(g), 3(h), 3(i), 3(j) 4

- The staff at the school are suitably knowledgeable and experienced to deliver the curriculum. There are subject specialists for several subjects who provide support to those staff who deliver subjects outside of their specialism.
- Staff receive regular training to support their delivery of the curriculum. Close collaboration between staff, including monitoring by leaders, ensures that teachers have good subject knowledge, present well-planned lessons, and use effective teaching methods.
- Staff demonstrate a good understanding of the needs and prior attainment of the pupils. They make suitable adaptations to their teaching to ensure all pupils make progress.
- Teachers use a range of assessment strategies to inform their teaching. Staff address misconceptions quickly and give additional explanations to pupils to secure their understanding.
- Pupils' progress is monitored regularly and is shared with parents on a termly basis.
- The proprietor has ensured that the independent school standards in this part are met.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b) 32(1)(c) [Part 6. Provision of information]

- There is a suitable safeguarding policy, which reflects the current guidance. The policy is available on the school website.
- Leaders are suitably trained in a range of safeguarding areas, including safer recruitment. They continue to demonstrate a good understanding of how to ensure there is a strong safeguarding culture. Since the last inspection, they have also completed training about the single central record. They have a clear understanding of the checks required for all members of staff.
- All staff have received a wide range of training about safeguarding. They know how to report a concern when they feel a pupil is at risk of harm. They also understand the process in place for reporting concerns about any adult who works at the school.
- The proprietor has ensured that these independent school standards are met.

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

Paragraphs 18(1), 18(2), 18(2)(a), 18(2)(b), 18(2)(c), 18(2)(c)(i), 18(2)(c)(ii), 18(2)(c)(iii), 18(2)(c)(iv), 18(2)(d), 18(2)(e), 18(3), 20(6), 20(6)(a), 20(6)(a)(i), 20(6)(a)(ii), 20(6)(b), 20(6)(b)(i), 20(6)(b)(ii), 20(6)(b)(iii), 20(6)(c), 21(1), 21(2), 21(3)(a)(i), 21(3)(a)(ii), 21(3)(a)(iv), 21(3)(a)(v), 21(3)(a)(vi), 21(3)(a)(vii), 21(3)(a)(viii), 21(3)(b), 21(6)

- Leaders are aware of all the appropriate checks that need to be undertaken for members of staff working at the school.
- The proprietor has ensured that the independent school standards in this part are met.

Paragraphs 21(3), 21(3)(a), 21(3)(a)(iii) 21(3)(b)

- Staff in management positions have had an appropriate check to establish whether they are subject to any direction made under section 128 of the 2008 Act.

- Staff in teaching roles have all been checked to establish if they are subject to a prohibition order and the date on which that check was made is recorded.
- The single central record contains all the information required.
- The proprietor has ensured that the previous unmet independent school standards in this part are now met.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraphs 23(1) 23(1)(c)

- Two new separate showers have been installed since the last inspection. These provide an appropriate private space for pupils to change and shower.
- The proprietor has ensured that the previous unmet independent school standards are now met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraphs 34(1), 34(1)(a) 34(1)(b)

- At the time of the last inspection, it was found that the proprietor had not ensured that all the independent school standards were met.
- The proprietor, together with leaders, took immediate action to rectify the omissions on the single central record. They created an appropriate action plan and have implemented all the actions.
- Leaders demonstrate a secure understanding of the independent school standards. They have the knowledge and experience to ensure that the standards will continue to be met.
- The proprietor has ensured that the previous unmet independent school standards are now met.

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. 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.

The school now meets the following independent school standards

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- 7(b) the arrangements made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

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

- 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)(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; and
 - 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

- 23(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that–
 - 23(1)(c) suitable changing accommodation and showers are provided for pupils aged 11 years or over at the start of the school year who receive physical education.

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; and
 - 34(1)(b) fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently.

School details

Unique reference number	141242
DfE registration number	330/6017
Inspection number	10295863

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 school
Age range of pupils	9 to 18
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	55
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	9
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Sally Alexander MBE
Chair	Kirstie Berry
Headteacher	Sally Alexander MBE
Annual fees (day pupils)	£7,200 to £9,750
Telephone number	01216 795 298
Website	www.kimichischool.co.uk
Email address	hello@kimichischool.com
Dates of previous standard inspection	22 to 24 November 2022

Information about this school

- The school is registered to provide full-time education for boys and girls aged nine to 18.
- The school is in Birmingham. It was registered as an independent school in August 2014 and is housed in a residential property.
- The school's most recent standard inspection was in November 2022, when it was judged to require improvement overall.
- Leaders do not use alternative provision.

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.
- The inspector discussed the progress made against the previously unmet independent school standards with the headteacher, who is also the proprietor.
- The inspector held meetings with the designated safeguarding leaders, to discuss safeguarding procedures. Pupils' case files were reviewed. The single central record of the checks on staff's suitability to work with children was scrutinised.
- The inspector also spoke to staff about safeguarding. The inspector spoke to pupils about how safe they feel in school and how they learn to keep themselves safe.
- The inspector met with the headteacher, the deputy headteacher and spoke to the link governor for safeguarding.
- The inspector examined several policies, schemes of work and plans, as well as visiting lessons.

Inspection team

Helen Forrest, lead inspector

His Majesty's Inspector

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