

# Esland Grantham School

Newton Chambers, Isaac Newton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 9RT

**Inspection date**

12 September 2024

**Overall outcome**

**The school is likely to meet the relevant independent school standards if the material changes relating to the school provision are implemented**

## Main inspection findings

### Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

*Paragraphs 7 to 7(b), 32(1), 32(1)(c)*

- The school's safeguarding policy is published on the school's website. It is up to date and in line with the current national guidance.
- Staff are knowledgeable about the increased vulnerabilities of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities with regard to safeguarding. Staff know what to do should any safeguarding concerns arise.
- Any safeguarding concerns are followed up quickly and appropriately. When necessary, the school ensures that the relevant authorities and agencies are informed of these concerns and suitable support is put in place.
- Pupils have trusted adults who help them with any worries or concerns. Pupils speak positively about the secure relationships they develop with their peers and with adults at the school.
- Staff receive appropriate training that is specific to the needs of the pupils that attend the school. Some of this training links to the different safeguarding risks that the pupils in their care may face.

*Paragraphs 11, 12, 14, 16 to 16(b)*

- The school has thought through the health, safety and risk implications of opening an additional building. The school follows suitable policies and risk assessments when carrying out checks of the school's premises. Staff ensure that any possible risks to pupils' welfare and safety are minimised.
- The new accommodation is equipped with appropriate fire safety equipment and emergency lighting.
- Appropriate systems are used to record incidents relating to health and safety, including accidents and illness.
- The proprietor has suitable plans in place to maintain effective supervision when pupil numbers increase in line with the requested material change.

- The school is likely to meet all the independent school standards (the standards) checked in this part if the material change is implemented.

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

*Paragraphs 18(2) to 18(2)(e), 18(3), 19(2) to 19(2)(d)(ii), 19(3), 20(6) to 20(6)(c), 21(1) to 21(3)(b), 21(5) to 21(5)(a)(ii), 21(5)(c), 21(6)*

- The school has appropriate recruitment procedures in place. All the necessary pre-employment checks are made before an offer of employment is given.
- The school's single central record meets the necessary requirements. It demonstrates a secure understanding of the need to keep this record up to date.
- The proprietor has completed the required checks of those persons who hold leadership and management positions in the school.
- The school does not plan to use supply staff to cover unplanned staff absences. However, it has ensured that there are rigorous systems in place should the need arise.
- The school is likely to meet all the standards in this part if the material change is implemented.

#### Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

*Paragraphs 23(1) to 24(1)(b), 25 to 29(1)(b)*

- An additional building, adjacent to the current premises, will house a sports hall, a medical room and additional therapy spaces. The new accommodation has been renovated, decorated and furnished to a high standard.
- The school premises have sufficient toilet and washing facilities for the proposed number of pupils.
- The school's site is secured with electronic fencing.
- There is suitable lighting, both inside and outside the buildings.
- Drinking-water from taps is clearly labelled. Pupils can also obtain drinking-water from free-standing water units.
- Suitable outdoor spaces are available for the proposed number of pupils. These include a designated space for physical activities, as well as spaces for activities such as gardening.
- The school is likely to meet all the standards in this part if the material change is implemented.

#### Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

*Paragraphs 34(1) to 34(1)(c)*

- The proprietor has a clear rationale for why it wants to increase the number of pupils on the school's roll. This is linked to the increased demand for school places for pupils

with social, emotional and mental health needs. The school is well positioned to prepare its pupils well for their next stage in education, training or employment.

- The school has made suitable plans to make sure that it is likely to continue to meet the standards that were checked during this inspection if the material change is approved.
- The proprietor has established a multi-layered leadership structure. This allows the proprietor to support the school effectively and hold it to account. This ensures that the school fulfils its responsibilities towards its pupils.
- The school is likely to meet all the standards in this part 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 that are relevant to the material change.

## School details

Unique reference number	147703
DfE registration number	925/6055
Inspection number	10356108

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	Other independent special school
School category	Independent day school
Proprietor	Esland North Limited
Chair	Jill Palmer
Headteacher	Suzanne Harvey
Annual fees (day pupils)	£67,425
Telephone number	01476 855604
Website	<a href="http://www.eslandgranthamschool.co.uk">www.eslandgranthamschool.co.uk</a>
Email address	<a href="mailto:suzanneharvey@eslandcare.co.uk">suzanneharvey@eslandcare.co.uk</a>
Date of previous standard inspection	30 January to 1 February 2024

## Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	7 to 18	7 to 18	7 to 18
Number of pupils on the school roll	28	38	38

## Pupils

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

Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	28	38
Number of part-time pupils	0	0
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	28	38
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	27	38
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	27	38

## Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	12	15
Number of part-time teaching staff	0	0
Number of staff in the welfare provision	16	19

## Information about this school

- Esland Grantham School is an independent special school. The proprietor of the school is Esland North Limited.
- The school provides education for up to 28 pupils who are aged between seven and 18 years.
- The school caters for pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs. Some of the pupils have a diagnosis of autism. The school also supports pupils with a diagnosis of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and those who have had adverse childhood experiences.
- Most pupils that attend the school have an education, health and care plan. Some of the pupils are in the care of the local authority.
- The school admits pupils from several local authorities.

- The school's most recent standard inspection was in January 2024.
- The school uses one unregistered alternative provision.
- The proprietor provides an education outreach team to deliver education to pupils who are registered at the school but who receive their education off site.

## Information about this inspection

- The Department for Education commissioned this material change inspection in response to the school's application to increase the number of pupils it can admit from 28 to 38 pupils. This was the school's first material change inspection for the proposed change.
- The inspector considered the suitability of the school's provision in relation to arrangements for safeguarding and staff recruitment; the school's health and safety arrangements; and the quality of leadership and management.
- The inspector met with senior leaders, including the headteacher and the director of education. The inspector also met with the chair of the proprietor body, who is also the chair of the governing body.
- The inspector met with a group of pupils and a group of staff.
- The inspector toured the school's site, including the new accommodation. A range of evidence, including documents relating to safeguarding, health and safety and risk assessment, was considered. The inspector also scrutinised the school's single central record.

## Inspection team

Shaheen Hussain, lead inspector

His Majesty's Inspector



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