



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Report for a Progress Monitoring Visit

Elmhurst School

March 2021



School's details

School	Elmhurst School			
DfE number	306/6005			
Address	Elmhurst School 44-48 South Park Hill Road South Croydon Surrey CR2 7DW			
Telephone number	020 8688 0661			
Email address	office@elmhurstschool.net			
Head Teacher	Mr Antony Padfield			
Proprietor	Bellevue Education Group Ltd			
Age range	3 to 11			
Number of pupils on roll	150			
	EYFS	28	Years 1 and 2	43
	Years 3 to 6	79		
Date of visit	26 March 2021			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Elmhurst School is an independent day school for pupils aged between three and eleven years. It is registered as a single-sex school for male pupils. Founded in 1869, it became part of the Bellevue Education Group Limited in 2013. The management and governance of the school are overseen by the group's education committee, chaired by its education director. The school has 14 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), none of whom has an education, health and care plan. There are 22 pupils who speak English as an additional language (EAL). The school's previous inspection was a focused compliance and educational quality inspection in February 2020.

Purpose of the visit

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring visit at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the focused compliance inspection on 25th February 2020.

Regulations which were the focus of the visit	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 11 (health and safety)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 12 (fire safety)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 16 (risk assessment)	Met
Part 5, paragraph 25 (maintenance of premises and accommodation)	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management)	Met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 7]

Safeguarding policy

- 2.1 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.2 The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.

Safeguarding implementation

- 2.3 The school meets the standard.
- 2.4 The school's implementation of its safeguarding policy and procedures provides appropriate support for all pupils' needs. Staff, including the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and deputies, are suitably trained. Suitable recruitment procedures are in place. Staff have read and understood documents relating to safeguarding, including Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2021 and the school's safeguarding policy. A suitable code of conduct for all staff is implemented effectively and includes advice on e-safety and the appropriate use of social media. Staff understand up-to-date definitions of abuse, including recognition of the particular vulnerabilities of those with SEND, for example to peer-on-peer abuse. They feel confident with the school's whistleblowing procedures. The school makes suitable provision for reporting a disclosure of abuse or allegation against an adult working in the school. The DSL acts on and refers the early signs of abuse and neglect, keeps clear records, and shares information quickly, as required by KCSIE. Effective contact is maintained with external agencies. Secure safeguarding arrangements were maintained during the current pandemic to ensure the safety of pupils at school or whilst learning remotely. Pupils interviewed were clear that their views are listened to and action would be taken if necessary. They indicated that this continued during the lockdown periods when they were able to discuss any issues with staff.
- 2.5 Proprietors ensure good oversight of safeguarding, including policy implementation; the governing body receives appropriate updates and conducts an annual review of safeguarding. Appropriate measures are taken in the EYFS, including to restrict the use of mobile phones and cameras.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – health and safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 11]

- 2.6 The school meets the standard.
- 2.7 The school now implements its policy effectively with regard to the management of asbestos. A professional survey determined action necessary in relation to its removal or regular inspection. Records show that asbestos requiring removal has been removed by qualified personnel. The school has taken effective action to meet requirements for the management of hazardous substances, this includes safe storage of such substances. This was confirmed by a tour of the school.
- 2.8 Delineation of responsibilities for health and safety are in place. Governance is aware of its responsibilities for health and safety. It has recently ensured that additional support is provided by outside personnel to enable the further development of systematic monitoring procedures.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – fire safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 12]

- 2.9 The school meets the standard.
- 2.10 The school has ensured compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order by ensuring that the fire risks identified during the previous inspection have been fully addressed. The fire risk assessment has been appropriately reviewed so as to keep it up to date and the required remedial work has been undertaken. The school has carried out a fixed wiring electrical test, installed a new emergency lighting system, updated its fire signage and carried out maintenance to exit doors.

Premises and accommodation – maintenance [ISSR Part 5, paragraph 25]

- 2.11 The school meets the standard.
- 2.12 The school has ensured that the premises are maintained to a standard commensurate with health and safety requirements. Checks relating to the maintenance and security of its premises and accommodation are appropriately undertaken.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c)]

- 2.13 The school meets the requirements for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents. Particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are published on the school's website.

Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34]

- 2.14 The school meets the standard.
- 2.15 The proprietor ensures that the leadership and management demonstrate the skills and knowledge to ensure that the school meets the required standards consistently. In particular it has created a management framework for health and safety, fire safety and risk assessment which is resourced, implemented and monitored effectively. Procedures enable the active promotion of the well-being of the pupils.

3. Regulatory action points

- 3.1 For the regulations which were the focus of this visit, the school meets all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, and no further action is required as a result of this visit.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspectors held discussions with the head teacher, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with a representative of the proprietor. They visited different areas of the school and talked with groups of pupils. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.