

Progress monitoring inspection report

6 December 2024

Wellesley Haddon Dene School

114 Ramsgate Road

Broadstairs

Kent

CT10 2DG

The Independent Schools Inspectorate is appointed by the Department for Education to inspect association independent schools in England. Our inspections report on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards and other applicable regulatory requirements are met, collectively referred to in this report as 'the Standards'.

Inspection outcome

The school meets all the relevant Standards that were checked during this inspection.

Inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

ISSR Paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b), 14, 16; EYFS Safeguarding and welfare requirements 3.5 and 3.7

1. The implementation of the school's safeguarding procedures is effective in providing appropriate support for pupils' needs. Staff show clear understanding of their responsibilities, including in those areas which are the focus of most recent changes in safeguarding guidance, in particular in identifying pupils who may need early help. The school is implementing new guidance in the recording and analysis of attendance and makes available to parents the revised attendance policy.
2. Suitable recruitment procedures for staff are included within the safeguarding policy. Leaders follow statutory safeguarding guidance before appointing staff and all adults have the appropriate pre-employment checks done before working or volunteering in the school.
3. Governors have introduced effective procedures to monitor and filter the use of the internet by pupils and staff. Senior leaders receive regular notification if users are attempting to access inappropriate online content or use language that might signify that a pupil is at risk. Governors regularly test the effectiveness of the procedures remotely.
4. Since the previous inspection governors have invested in extensive safeguarding training for teaching and non-teaching staff. Training is of sufficient quality and scope and staff understanding is checked. Central records of staff attendance at training are kept systematically and these enable any staff who miss training to receive suitable update training.
5. Staff show appropriate understanding of the staff code of conduct and safeguarding procedures. They understand the school's low-level concerns procedures although there have been no such concerns since the previous inspection. Staff understand the training they have received, which includes recent changes in statutory guidance. They know who to go to if they have a concern or receive a disclosure and also that they can make a referral to children's services if necessary.
6. Suitable risk assessment procedures are provided for determining where immediate action is required to support pupils, including referral to local agencies. Since the previous inspection safeguarding leaders have received further training so that they now have a clear understanding of local thresholds and reporting protocols. Pupils receive the help they require to reduce risks and prevent issues escalating.
7. Leaders act on and, where required, refer the early signs of risk or need, monitor any potential for radicalisation, and ensure the school listens to the views of individual pupils. Safeguarding records are detailed and are securely stored.
8. Staff with particular safeguarding responsibilities monitor and support pupils when required. Suitable communication is maintained with parents. Staff are clear that they cannot promise confidentiality if a pupil or parent makes a disclosure. Pupils receive guidance on staying safe and show understanding of what they have been taught, including in relation to safety online. Pupils can speak to a range of adults and the school takes actions when they express concerns.
9. The safeguarding policy gives contact details as required for local agencies, and it is effectively implemented. It includes suitable definitions of abuse and provides appropriate guidance regarding

possible abuse by one or more pupils against another pupil, including linking such abuse to bullying. Arrangements for handling allegations against staff are included in safeguarding procedures; they include seeking immediate advice from the local authority designated safeguarding officers (LADO). Leaders understand their role in reporting any person where referral criteria are met to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and/or the Teacher Regulation Agency (TRA).

10. The oversight by governors of safeguarding is appropriate and includes a formal annual review. A person with appropriate experience has recently been appointed as the designated governor for safeguarding and they regularly communicate with the school's safeguarding team. A separate record of incidents relating to any racial or inappropriate sexual behaviour is kept and suitable action is taken.
11. Pupils are properly supervised by qualified and trained staff and a clear supervision rota is in place. Pupils in the early years are always in sight of staff.
12. Governors and school leaders effectively identify and mitigate risks to pupils' wellbeing. The risk assessment policy clearly describes the lines of responsibility. There are appropriate assessments of risk for in-school activities, school visits, and for the needs of individual pupils. Appropriate action is taken to control identified risks.
13. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

14. 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.
15. The school meets the Standard.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraphs 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c)

16. Appropriate procedures are implemented which allow senior leaders and governors to manage safeguarding and welfare arrangements and ensure that the Standards are met. Governors and senior leaders regularly review policies and their implementation.
17. Governors have effectively implemented the action plan following the previous inspection. They have assessed and mitigated the potential risk they have identified in safeguarding and the quality of supervision. They have ensured that the wellbeing of pupils is promoted effectively.
18. The school meets the Standard.

School details

School	Wellesley Haddon Dene
Department for Education number	886/6001
Registered charity number	307852
Address	Wellesley Haddon Dene School Wellesley House 114 Ramsgate Road Broadstairs Kent CT10 2DG
Phone number	01843 862991
Email address	office@wellesleyhouse.net
Website	www.wellesleyhaddondene.co.uk
Proprietor	Alpha Schools
Chair	Mr Ali Khan
Headteacher	Mrs Lisa Harries
Age range	2 to 11
Number of pupils	127
Number of children in the early years	50
Date of previous inspection	25 to 27 January 2024

Information about the school

20. Wellesley Haddon Dene School is an independent co-educational day and boarding school. The school was formed from a merger on 1 September 2022 of Haddon Dene School, which closed on 31 August 2022, and Wellesley House School. The school is based in the premises previously used by Wellesley House School. It is owned and overseen by the Alpha Schools group, which previously oversaw Haddon Dene School.
21. Since the previous inspection an interim headteacher has been appointed and the school has closed its boarding accommodation.
22. There are 50 children in the early years part of the school, comprising two Nursery classes and one Reception class.
23. The school has identified 11 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), two of whom have an education, health and care (EHC) plan.
24. English is an additional language for eight pupils.
25. The school states its aims are to provide an encouraging and nurturing environment in which pupils can realise their potential and develop into well-rounded, motivated, young adults. It seeks to prepare pupils for purposeful, successful and happy lives, equipped with all-round skills, self-confidence, integrity and good manners.

Purpose of the progress monitoring inspection

Inspectors carried out this inspection under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. This inspection was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection which was carried out at the request of the DfE. The purpose of this inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the Independent School Standards and Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection dates

6 December 2024

26. Two reporting inspectors visited the school for one day.
27. Inspection activities included:
 - scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
 - tour of the school site to look at changing rooms and supervision arrangements
 - discussions with the chair of governors
 - discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
 - discussions with pupils and staff.

How are association independent schools in England inspected?

- The Department for Education is the regulator for independent schools in England.
- ISI is approved by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England, which are members of associations in membership of the Independent Schools Council.
- ISI inspections report to the Department for Education on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards, the EYFS statutory framework requirements, the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and any other relevant Standards are met.
- For more information, please visit **www.isi.net**.

Independent Schools Inspectorate

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