



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Progress Monitoring Inspection Report

Brabyns Preparatory School

September 2022

School's details

School name	Brabyns Preparatory School			
DfE number	356/6004			
Address	Brabyns Preparatory School 34-36 Arkwright Road Marple Stockport Cheshire SK6 7DB			
Telephone number	0161 427 2395			
Email address	admin@brabynsprepschool.co.uk			
Head	Mrs. Lindsay McKenna			
Proprietor	Bellevue Education			
Age Range	2 to 11			
Number of pupils on roll	116			
	EYFS	27	Juniors	89
Date of inspection	21 September 2022			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Brabyns Preparatory School is an independent day school owned by the Bellevue Education Group and overseen by an education committee consisting of the directors. The school was founded in 1899 and is located on the border of Cheshire and Derbyshire. The school occupies two buildings on a suburban one-acre site. It comprises a nursery and preparatory school. The current head was appointed in September 2021. The school has identified 27 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Three pupils have an education, health and care plan. English is an additional language (EAL) for four pupils. The school's previous inspection was a regulatory compliance inspection in November 2021.

Purpose of the inspection

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the regulatory compliance inspection on 3 to 5 November 2021. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs) and the requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 4, paragraphs 18 to 21 (suitability of staff, supply staff and the proprietors)	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 Arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils throughout the school are implemented effectively. Procedures for safeguarding show regard for the most recent statutory guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022*. The safeguarding team, led by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) of suitable seniority, are knowledgeable about their responsibilities. They provide suitable induction and ongoing training for all staff. Safeguarding documents show that concerns about pupils' welfare are acted upon promptly, confidentially and records are kept secure. Pupils confirm that they can share concerns with staff and that they receive a response. Those with safeguarding responsibilities maintain appropriate relationships with external agencies, including with the LADO and services focused on children's welfare.
- 2.5 The school has suitable arrangements to handle allegations against adults working with pupils in the school. Senior leaders and the proprietor understand their responsibilities to refer to statutory bodies any adult about whom concerns have been raised when relevant to do so.
- 2.6 The policy and procedures comply with the child protection arrangements appropriately and for the EYFS, including the school's advice on use of cameras and mobile phones. Staff understand the school's policies, including those for staff conduct, whistleblowing, children missing in education and online safety. The implementation of safeguarding procedures is reviewed annually by the education committee of directors. Members of the proprietary body are trained appropriately in safeguarding.
- 2.7 The school has implemented the action plan required following the previous inspection effectively. It now ensures that its recruitment procedures have regard to statutory safeguarding guidance and that all required checks are carried out.

Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors [ISSR Part 4, paragraphs 18–21]

- 2.8 The school meets the standards.
- 2.9 The school makes appropriate checks to ensure the suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors. These include checks of the list of those prohibited from management. A register is kept as required. Senior leaders and the education committee of directors now carry out regular checks to check compliance in this area.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32]

- 2.10 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]

2.11 The school meets the standard.

2.12 The proprietor ensures that senior leaders and managers demonstrate good skills and sufficient knowledge to fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that all the other standards are consistently met, and the wellbeing of pupils is actively promoted. They have fully implemented the action plan submitted following the previous inspection in regard to safeguarding pupils and the suitability of staff.

3. Regulatory action points

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

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspector held discussions with the head, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with two of the governors. She visited different areas of the school, observed lessons and talked with groups of pupils. She scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.

Inspectors

Mrs Daphne Cawthorne

Reporting inspector