

Le Herisson School

Rivercourt Methodist Church, Lower Ground Floor, Rivercourt Road, London W6 9JT

Inspection dates

5 July 2018

Overall outcome

The school meets all of the independent school standards that were checked during this inspection

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b) and 15

- At the time of the last inspection in July 2017, these standards were not met because the admissions register did not always record the destinations of pupils when they left the school. As a result, leaders could not be sure that these pupils were not missing from education.
- Furthermore, leaders had not followed their safeguarding policy with regard to reporting concerns to the local authority and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
- This inspection found that the admission register meets requirements. Leaders have thorough procedures in place to manage the admissions arrangements of all new pupils. They record the destinations of all pupils when they leave the school. Leaders have undertaken training to ensure that they understand fully their role in reporting information to the local authority.
- Leaders met with the local authority designated officer to check that their safeguarding procedures meet requirements. Leaders have an accurate understanding of their role in reporting any concerns to the local authority and the DBS.
- The school's safeguarding policy is suitable and complies with the current legislation. It is published on the school's website for parents and carers. Staff training is up to date. During this inspection, staff demonstrated a secure understanding of the procedures to follow to report any concerns about a pupil's welfare. They understand the school's whistleblowing procedures and how to deal with allegations against the headteacher or proprietor.
- The headteacher, the proprietor and another member of staff are appropriately trained in the role of designated safeguarding lead. The school's single central record of staff suitability checks continues to meet requirements. This inspection found safeguarding arrangements to be effective.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent standards in this part are now met.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 29(1) and 29(1)(b)

- At the previous inspection, these standards were not met because leaders had not ensured that pupils had equal access to an outdoor space to allow pupils to play outside.
- This inspection found that leaders have implemented the tasks in their action plan to address this. All pupils visit the nearby park every day, other than Wednesdays. These sessions are timetabled effectively and allow sufficient time for pupils to travel to and from the park. On Wednesdays, the school closes early and all pupils take part in physical education sessions in school on Wednesday mornings.
- Staff ensure pupils' safety on the walk to and from the park. Arrangements are in place to make sure that all safeguarding procedures are robust during these visits.
- During the inspection, these arrangements took place efficiently and in line with the timetabled sessions. Pupils and staff said that the visits to the park take place consistently, for all classes, whatever the weather. Record-keeping and daily registers show this to be the case.
- Since the previous inspection, leaders have developed the school's outdoor area. This is now an 'outdoor classroom' where pupils have daily access to fresh air and outdoor learning, in addition to their play sessions at the park. The area has been set out to incorporate different aspects of learning, including writing, mathematics, creative arts and science.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are now met.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

Paragraph 33 and 33(d)

- At the previous inspection, these standards were not met because leaders had not ensured that a complaints procedure was drawn up, and effectively implemented, which allowed for complaints from parents to be considered initially on an informal basis.
- This inspection found that the school's complaints procedures now clearly set out the arrangements for dealing with a complaint initially on an informal basis. The complaints policy meets requirements and is published on the school's website. The school's complaints record confirms that there have been no complaints this academic year.
- This inspection also found that leaders have worked to improve partnerships with parents. The headteacher has developed workshops, coffee mornings and an 'open-door' policy that enable parents to be more involved in the school and to address any questions or concerns informally and swiftly. Testimonials from parents received during the inspection were positive.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are now met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)

- The standards in this part were not met at the previous inspection because leaders had not ensured that all the independent school standards were met.
- Since the last inspection, leaders have worked effectively to address the issues raised. They have established an advisory board which complements the work of the headteacher and proprietor. Leaders understand their role in relation to checking the school's compliance with the independent school standards.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent school standards in this part 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

- Ensure that arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and that such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State (paragraph 7, 7(a) and 7(b)).
- Ensure that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (paragraph 15).
- Ensure that suitable outdoor space is provided in order to enable pupils to play outside (paragraph 29(1) and 29(1)(b)).
- Ensure that a complaints procedure is drawn up and effectively implemented which deals with the handling of complaints from parents of pupils and which allows for a complaint to be made and considered initially on an informal basis (paragraph 33 and 33(d)).
- Ensure that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role, fulfil their responsibilities effectively and actively promote the well-being of pupils, so that the independent school standards are met consistently (paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)).

School details

Unique reference number	100376
DfE registration number	205/6387
Inspection number	10055145

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	2 to 6
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	44
Number of part-time pupils	None
Proprietor	Maria Frost
Headteacher	Sebastien Nowack
Annual fees (day pupils)	£9,300 to £9,780
Telephone number	020 8563 7664
Website	leherissonschoo.co.uk
Email address	administration@leherissonschoo.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	4–6 July 2017

Information about this school

- Le Herisson School is an independent day school in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.
- The school delivers the French l'Ecole Maternelle curriculum, which is part of the French national curriculum. The school is registered with the Agence pour l'Enseignement Français à l'Étranger (AEFE).
- The school occupies the lower ground floor of a church, which has been converted and adapted for educational use. The school has a small area of outside space and also uses other local facilities for recreation and for physical education.

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 school's last inspection took place in July 2017, where the overall effectiveness of the school was judged as inadequate. The school submitted an action plan. Ofsted reviewed the action plan in December 2017 and found it to be acceptable. The Department for Education accepted the action plan.
- This inspection was the school's first monitoring inspection. It was unannounced.
- The inspector held meetings with the proprietor, headteacher and designated safeguarding lead. He met formally with members of staff and held informal discussions with staff throughout the inspection. The inspector spoke with pupils informally at appropriate times.
- The inspector walked to the park with staff and pupils and observed outdoor play routines.
- The inspector evaluated the school's single central record of staff suitability checks and scrutinised other documents related to safeguarding, including the policy. He checked the school's website and complaints procedures. The inspector looked at the complaints record log, admissions register and class attendance registers.
- The inspector toured the school, including the outdoor classroom. He checked documentation related to the school's compliance with the independent school standards.
- There were too few responses to Parent View, Ofsted's online survey, to consider as part of this inspection.

Inspection team

Gary Rawlings, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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