



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Report for a Progress Monitoring Visit

Terrington Hall School

January 2020



School's details

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|----------------------------------|---|-----|-----------------------|----|
| School College | Terrington Hall School | | | |
| DfE number | 815/6003 | | | |
| Registered charity number | 532362 | | | |
| Address | Terrington Hall School Terrington York North Yorkshire YO60 6PR | | | |
| Telephone number | 01653 648227 | | | |
| Email address | office@terringtonhall.com | | | |
| Headteacher | Mr Stephen Mulryne | | | |
| Chair of governors | Mr Rodger Hobson | | | |
| Age range | 3 to 13 | | | |
| Number of pupils on roll | 154 | | | |
| | Boys | 76 | Girls | 78 |
| | Day pupils | 154 | Flexi Boarders | 48 |
| | Pre-Prep | 49 | Lower Prep | 51 |
| | Upper-Prep | 55 | | |
| Date of visit | 9 January 2020 | | | |

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Terrington Hall is an independent day and boarding school for girls and boys aged between three and thirteen years. The school became an educational trust in 1974 and is governed by a board of trustees. Originally a boys' boarding school, it became co-educational in the 1980s and there are now no full-time boarders. The school comprises three sections: the Pre-Prep, including Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), for pupils aged three to seven years; the Lower Prep, for pupils aged seven to ten years; and Upper Prep, for pupils aged ten to thirteen years. Flexi-boarders, from Year 3 onwards, are accommodated in the main school building, with separate facilities for boys and girls. No pupils have an education, health and care plan or a statement of special educational needs. The school has identified 17 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities, which include dyslexia and dyspraxia, seven of whom receive additional specialist help. One pupil has English as an additional language and receives specialist support. The school's previous inspection was a focussed compliance and education quality inspection in June 2019.

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 focussed compliance and education quality inspection in June 2019. The focus of the visit was on safeguarding, health and safety, fire safety, risk assessment and the quality of leadership and management of schools.

| Regulations which were the focus of the visit | Team judgements |
|---|-----------------|
| Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8 (safeguarding); NMS 11; EYFS requirements 3.4 ,3.5 | Met |
| Part 3, paragraph 11 (health and safety); NMS 6; EYFS 3.54 | Met |
| Part 3, paragraph 12 (fire safety); NMS 7; EYFS 3.55 | Met |
| Part 3, paragraph 16 (risk assessment); NMS 6; EYFS 3.64 | Met |
| Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information); NMS 4 | Met |
| Part 8, paragraph 34 (quality of leadership and management of schools); NMS 13.1, 13.3, 13.4, 13.5 and 13.8 | Met |

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8; NMS 11; EYFS 3.4 and 3.5]

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 standards and the requirements.
- 2.4 All staff have received recent comprehensive training to ensure that they understand their safeguarding responsibilities. This includes detail of the school's safeguarding policy, the staff code of conduct and procedures for whistleblowing. Regular briefings ensure that staff, including governors, are kept up to date with new legislation and changes in safeguarding requirements, including those for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).
- 2.5 Staff training is in line with the requirements of North Yorkshire Children's Services. Staff new to the school, including gap assistants, receive appropriate induction training. All staff have been trained in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2019, including Part 1 and Annexe A. Their understanding of what they have read is checked through using a series of one-minute guides in the form of on-line question and answer sessions managed by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). Training records kept by the DSL confirm these include that staff have been suitably trained in their duty to prevent radicalisation.
- 2.6 The school liaises closely with a number of local agencies and should concerns, or allegations arise, the school knows how to seek advice from the appropriate agencies and, the safeguarding procedures, in place, confirm that the school knows how to make a referral. The school meets all of the requirements for safeguarding children in the EYFS. The school is aware of the need to liaise appropriately with parents about safeguarding concerns that arise to ensure that parental wishes do not override the best interests of the child. Pupils, during discussions, commented that they were aware of safeguarding arrangements in the school, including on-line safety; they felt that they were fairly treated, and that staff were approachable. Pupils confirmed that should they have a concern or worry, they were confident that staff were available to listen to them and that appropriate actions would be taken where necessary.
- 2.7 The school operates a flexi boarding programme in which pupils can opt to board on a day to day basis. There is clear guidance for the induction and support of boarding pupils and the head of boarding manages the boarding provision with a support team to ensure that the safeguarding and welfare of boarding pupils is met. Boarding pupils confirmed that they knew the identity of the independent listener and that they could access a range of professional support services if needed.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – health and safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 11; NMS 6; EYFS 3.54]

- 2.8 The school meets the standard and the requirements.
- 2.9 The health and safety policy which has recently been reviewed gives a clear statement of intent to protect both pupils and staff from accident and injury and it provides comprehensive and appropriate guidance covering the operational areas of the school. Two senior members of staff share responsibility for the management of health and safety matters, with appropriate delegation to section leaders, however it is also made clear that all staff have a role to play in health and safety matters. A governor who has a specific health and safety remit undertakes regular site walks with the bursar and site manager, with issues requiring attention being reported back to the governing board's estates committee for prioritised action.
- 2.10 Training in health and safety matters is through on-line courses provided by an appropriately qualified external provider and training logs scrutinised indicated recent health and safety training for all staff which included fire safety matters. Scrutiny of maintenance logs and electrical checks confirmed that regular testing of appliances took place and that externally qualified contactors were used to monitor swimming pool and boiler plant rooms as well as electrical distribution boards. The health and safety policies and procedures equally apply to all boarding and EYFS pupils to ensure their needs are also appropriately met.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – fire safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 12; NMS 7; EYFS 3.55]

- 2.11 The school meets the standards and the requirement.
- 2.12 The school has addressed effectively the failings on the previous inspection related to fire safety. A new fire detection and warning system has been installed that covers the whole school and emergency lighting systems have been installed where recommended. Since the previous inspection external consultants have surveyed the school and have produced an updated whole school comprehensive fire risk assessment plan and have installed new fire controls, emergency lighting and fire prevention systems. All the consultant's recommendations have been implemented in terms of fire safety. A named person is in charge of fire safety at the school and is required to report on a regular basis to the governing board health and safety committee.
- 2.13 Pupils, including boarders, receive appropriate guidance on what to do should there be a fire and in discussions pupils and staff confirmed that fire practices are held at least termly, including for boarding pupils and that they were familiar with the evacuation process. Scrutiny of documentation showed that fire extinguishers were checked annually by an external contractor and that internal alarms and call points are checked on a weekly basis. Fire consultancy advisors continue to visit the school to survey the site and advise on any action required, documentation was seen which confirms that any advisory actions were promptly acted on by the school. Scrutiny of training documentation confirmed that all staff had recently received fire awareness training and that a large number had also taken part in fire warden training. The fire safety requirements for boarding and EYFS pupils are also fully met and are appropriate for the school.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – risk assessment [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 16; NMS 6; EYFS 3.64]

- 2.14 The school meets the standards and the requirement.
- 2.15 Since the previous inspection the school has used suitably qualified external contractors to provide the school staff with comprehensive training and guidance on the production of risk assessments to cover the key areas of risk in involving pupils' welfare. Scrutiny of a range of risk assessments confirmed that appropriate policies are available to cover all school buildings, including high risk areas such as the science laboratory, the kitchen and swimming pool. Each classroom has its own bespoke risk assessment relevant to the activities taking place in the room and educational visit risk assessments for both local and overseas trips are appropriate. All risk assessments seen used a numerical assessment of severity of risk and likelihood of occurrence and demonstrated an appropriate evaluation of potential risks and a thorough approach to the identification of suitable control measures and any actions needed to reduce risk.
- 2.16 Since June 2019 an external contractor has produced individual fire risk assessments to cover all areas of operation of the school and they continue to have an ongoing remit to deliver staff training and conduct periodic reviews of the school to ensure that fire, gas and electrical safety remain a priority. In EYFS appropriate risk assessments are in place to cover classroom activities, any trips out and the school's woodland environment and examination of boarding risk assessments confirmed that the health and safety needs of the boarding pupils are appropriately managed.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32; NMS 4]

- 2.17 The school meets the requirement for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents. Particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are published on the school's website and provided to parents on request.

Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34; NMS 1, 13]

- 2.18 The school meets the standards.
- 2.19 Since the previous inspection the school's leadership and management have taken effective steps to ensure that they have the good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role, to effectively fulfil their responsibilities and duties and ensure the well-being of pupils.
- 2.20 The senior management and governors have ensured that the items listed in the action plan produced as a result of the previous inspection have been systematically addressed, most particularly those related to fire safety. The school now has a fully integrated fire detection and protection system which links across all buildings. Staff and governors have undertaken further training in health and safety risk management including the production of appropriate risk assessments to safeguard the welfare of pupils and staff. Scrutiny of governing board minutes confirmed the commitment of the governing board to ensure that all health and safety matters are fully addressed.
- 2.21 Leadership and management now regularly monitor all risk assessments including those for fire safety, drawing on the expertise of external consultants where necessary. Matters such as safeguarding, fire safety, health and safety and pupil well-being are reported to governing board meetings on a termly basis and governors have strengthened their monitoring role. As a result of this increased monitoring and review the school now ensures that the Independent School Standards, the National Minimum Standards and the requirements of the EYFS are consistently met.

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, National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2015 and requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework, 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, senior leaders and other members of staff and had a telephone conversation with the chair of governors. They visited different areas of the school, including the boarding house and talked with groups of pupils. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.