



**ISI** Independent  
Schools  
Inspectorate

**Report for a Material Change Visit**

**The Moat School**

**June 2022**

## School's details

<b>School</b>	The Moat School			
<b>DfE number</b>	205/6395			
<b>Address</b>	The Moat School Bishops Avenue Fulham London SW6 6EG			
<b>Telephone number</b>	0207 610 9018			
<b>Email address</b>	office@moatschool.org.uk			
<b>Headmaster</b>	Mr Koen Claeys			
<b>Proprietor</b>	Cavendish Education Group			
<b>Age range</b>	9 to 21			
<b>Number of pupils on roll</b>	149			
	<b>Juniors</b>	7	<b>Seniors</b>	98
	<b>Sixth Form</b>	44		
<b>Date of visit</b>	23 June 2022			

## 1. Introduction

### Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 The Moat School is an independent co-educational day school for pupils. The school is based on two sites, the sixth form in Ravenscourt Park and the rest of the school in Fulham. The school is overseen by Cavendish Education Group. All pupils at the school have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and 132 have an education and health care (EHC) plan. Seven pupils speak English as an additional language (EAL). The school's previous inspection was a material change visit in September 2021.

### Purpose of the visit

- 1.2 This was an announced material change visit at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to assess the school's proposal to change its registered capacity from 170 to 260. The school also proposes to increase its age range from 9 to 21 to 7 to 21. Additional premises in Fulham have been acquired to accommodate, ultimately, pupils in Years 3 to 8. The visit focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs) and was centred on the Fulham site.

Regulations which were the focus of the visit	Team judgements
Part 1, paragraph 2 (curriculum)	<b>Met</b>
Part 1, paragraph 3 (teaching)	<b>Met</b>
Part 1, paragraph 4 (framework for pupil performance)	<b>Met</b>
Part 2, paragraph 5 (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development)	<b>Met</b>
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	<b>Met</b>
Part 3, paragraph 11 (health and safety)	<b>Met</b>
Part 3, paragraph 12 (fire safety)	<b>Met</b>
Part 3, paragraph 14 (supervision of pupils)	<b>Met</b>
Part 3, paragraph 16 (risk assessment)	<b>Met</b>
Part 4, paragraphs 18 – 21 (suitability of staff)	<b>Met</b>
Part 5, paragraphs 23 – 29 (premises and accommodation)	<b>Met</b>
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	<b>Met</b>
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management)	<b>Met</b>

## 2. Inspection findings

### Quality of education provided – curriculum [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 2]

- 2.1 The school meets the standard.
- 2.2 A suitable written policy on the curriculum has been prepared to meet the needs of pupils in Years 3 and 4. This is supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work. Personal, social, health and economic education is set out in detailed schemes. These indicate that pupils will receive specific lessons on relationships education, details of which are published on the school's website.
- 2.3 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

### Quality of education provided – teaching [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 3]

- 2.4 The school meets the standard.
- 2.5 Evidence from scrutiny of documents and performance data indicates that teachers enable pupils to acquire new knowledge and make good progress according to their ability. Policies include guidance for teachers in how to use effective strategies for managing pupils' behaviour and outline the importance of not undermining fundamental British values. These are suitable for pupils in Years 3 and 4. Staff already assigned to the teaching of the proposed Year 3 and 4 classes in September 2022 are suitably experienced and qualified.
- 2.6 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

### Quality of education provided – framework for pupils' performance [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 4]

- 2.7 The school meets the standard.
- 2.8 Ongoing assessment is an integral part of the school's learning and development process and teachers regularly assess pupils' progress. Following its current practice, which is embedded successfully in the existing junior-age classes, the school intends to use its own assessment systems in the teaching of pupils in Years 3 and 4 to record and monitor pupils' potential, progress and attainment.
- 2.9 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

### Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils [ISSR Part 2, paragraph 5]

- 2.10 The school meets the standard.
- 2.11 Principles and values are actively promoted which facilitate the personal development of pupils as responsible, tolerant, law-abiding citizens. In discussions, pupils' responses when asked about staff and their peers indicated appropriate relationships within the school. Pupils also showed an acceptance for the views and beliefs of others, both within the school community and the wider world.
- 2.12 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

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

#### Safeguarding policy

2.13 The school meets the requirements.

2.14 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**

2.15 The school meets the standard.

2.16 Safeguarding procedures are suitably implemented in line with *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE). Records of regular meetings indicate that the safeguarding team works closely together to promote pupils' well-being effectively. The team ensures that safeguarding information is regularly shared with staff, parents and pupils and that safeguarding procedures are monitored appropriately. In discussions, pupils reported that they can raise any concerns freely and that they feel they are listened to by staff when they do so. Inspection evidence from safeguarding records confirms this view and that action is taken when pupils' specific needs are identified. Any incidents of sexual harassment or sexual violence, including online, since the previous inspection have been efficiently dealt with by the safeguarding team. This has included seeking external advice if necessary. Members of staff are clear about whether pupils are respectively in need or at risk, and understand that if any pupils are victims of harmful sexual behaviour or potentially so, safeguarding partners and the police should be contacted promptly.

2.17 Detailed school records of all safeguarding concerns are regularly monitored to identify patterns so that any early signs of abuse can be acted upon. Regular safeguarding training for all staff includes identification of such behaviours. In discussions staff demonstrated a full awareness of their training and their safeguarding responsibilities, in particular, the heightened vulnerability of those with SEND and EHC plans. They confirmed that they would know how to respond if a situation of child-on-child sexual abuse arose. Staff receive suitable training when new to the school and, from thereon, update training about the most recent statutory guidance is regularly provided. Staff have completed training in the risks of radicalisation and extremism. Central records of staff attendance at training are kept systematically, so that absentees at the time of training can be identified and training arranged.

2.18 Arrangements for handling allegations against staff are included in safeguarding procedures and in discussions staff showed an appropriate awareness of what may constitute a low-level concern. The school safeguarding team works together with the proprietors to produce a suitable annual review of safeguarding. A scrutiny of the minutes of board meetings where safeguarding was discussed confirms that there is an appropriate depth and breadth of oversight. Proprietors have received effective safeguarding training and the DSL ensures that they receive regular updates. Discussions with the proprietor and staff demonstrated that they have given appropriate thought to the proposed intake of Year 3 and 4 age groups into the school, considering with suitable care related safeguarding arrangements and procedures.

2.19 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

### **Welfare, health and safety of pupils – health and safety and fire safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 11 and 12]**

2.20 The school meets the standard.

2.21 Health and safety matters within the school are handled appropriately. Systematic procedures are implemented effectively and outcomes are regularly reviewed by proprietors. An appropriate fire safety policy is in place, and procedures for emergency evacuation are implemented effectively and suitably recorded with regular fire drills held. A suitable fire risk assessment has been undertaken for the new premises by external consultants and a final follow up visit is scheduled to occur before these

open for pupils. This is designed to confirm that all fire signage is clear throughout and that all necessary fire equipment is in place and in full working order.

- 2.22 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

### **Welfare, health and safety of pupils – supervision of pupils [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 14]**

- 2.23 The school meets the standard.
- 2.24 The school ensures that pupils are always under appropriate supervision while attending school. There are sufficient staff in place to maintain suitable supervision of pupils once the younger pupils join the school and for when the proposed increase in numbers takes place.
- 2.25 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

### **Welfare, health and safety of pupils – risk assessment [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 16]**

- 2.26 The school meets the standard.
- 2.27 The school has an appropriate risk assessment policy which sets out a suitable approach to the management of risk including the action taken to reduce any risks that are identified. Risk assessments are in place for all offsite visits and for areas of the school such as the science laboratory and recreation areas. Suitable assessments of risk have been made for the new premises and for admitting younger pupils.
- 2.28 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

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

- 2.29 The school meets the standard.
- 2.30 The school implements a suitable recruitment policy which has due regard to the procedures outlined in KCSIE. The school makes appropriate checks to ensure the suitability of staff and proprietors, and a register is kept as required. The information on the register reflects documentation seen in staff files.
- 2.31 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

### **Premises and accommodation [ISSR Part 5, paragraphs 23–29]**

- 2.32 The school meets the standard.
- 2.33 A tour of the newly acquired premises demonstrated that appropriate provision is in place for the pupils who are to use the accommodation. It provides ample additional space to accommodate the extra numbers. Toilet and washing facilities are appropriate and sufficient for the proposed increase in numbers of pupils. A suitable medical room is currently being fitted out. Acoustics in all areas are suitable to promote learning. Appropriate provision is available for pupils to have easy access to drinking water. The accommodation provides sufficient space for indoor recreation and physical education, and younger pupils will continue to use the senior school facilities for outdoor sports. External lighting ensures all areas are appropriately lit. The refurbishment of the school is not yet fully completed, but the proprietors have adequate plans to ensure, as they do for the school's other two

premises, that it: will be maintained to a good state of repair; be monitored regularly for safety; and that furnishings and resources will be of a suitable quality.

- 2.34 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the admission of pupils into Years 3 and 4 and with the proposed increase in its registered capacity.

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

- 2.35 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]**

- 2.36 The school meets the standard.
- 2.37 Those with leadership and management positions demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role and they fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the other standards are met consistently and the well-being of the pupils is ensured. The proprietors and the senior leaders have considered with suitable care what measures are necessary to introduce pupils into Years 3 and 4 and the proposed increase in pupil numbers. The school is suitably prepared for the material change.

### **3. Recommendation with regard to material change request**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the school's proposals to admit pupils into Years 3 and 4 and to increase its registered maximum capacity from 170 to 260 pupils be approved.



## **4. Summary of evidence**

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