



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Material Change Inspection Report

Radnor House School

September 2022

School's details

School name	Radnor House School			
DfE number	318/6006			
Address	Radnor House School Pope's Villa Cross Deep Twickenham Middlesex TW1 4QG			
Telephone number	020 8891 6264			
Email address	info@radnorhouse.org			
Headteacher	Mr Darryl Wideman			
Proprietor	Dukes Education			
Age Range	9 to 18			
Number of pupils on roll	455			
	Junior	40	Senior (Years 7-11)	329
	Sixth Form	86		
Date of visit	13 September 2022			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Radnor House School is a co-educational day school. Since 2019, the school has been owned and overseen by Dukes Education, supported by a board of governors which focusses on strategic and compliance matters. The school has 44 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Two have an education, health and care plan. Seven pupils speak English as an additional language. The school's previous inspection was a focused compliance and educational quality inspection in February 2020.

Purpose of the inspection

- 1.2 This was an announced material change inspection at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to assess the school's proposal to increase the capacity of the school to 455 from September 2022. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs).

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 11 (health and safety)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 12 (fire safety)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 14 (supervision of pupils)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 16 (risk assessment)	Met
Part 4, paragraphs 18 to 21 (suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors)	Met
Part 5, paragraphs 23 to 29 (premises and accommodation)	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 Implementation of all aspects of the school's safeguarding procedures is effective in providing appropriate support for the needs of the pupils. The current arrangements are sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed increase in pupil numbers.
- 2.5 Staff demonstrate appropriate knowledge of safeguarding procedures including those for children missing in education. They understand the staff code of conduct and the school's whistleblowing procedures. Staff show an understanding of their responsibilities and fulfil them effectively. They demonstrate a suitable knowledge of the thresholds for reporting potential issues, including child-on-child abuse. Staff know who to go to if they receive a disclosure or have a concern and are aware that they can make a direct referral to children's services if necessary. The safeguarding policy provides appropriate contact details for local agencies.
- 2.6 Discussions with the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) who is also responsible for the pastoral care in the school confirm that pupils receive guidance on how to respond to issues if they arise. Training for staff is of sufficient frequency and quality and those with specific safeguarding responsibilities have training in line with statutory advice and local requirements. Records of training attendance are kept centrally.
- 2.7 Staff, including senior leaders, listen to the views of the pupils effectively. Mechanisms include a bespoke digital online system to enable pupils' concerns to be heard. The DSL acts immediately on any early signs of risk and monitors pupils through various systems which are shared with the staff and governors as appropriate. Pupils confirm that they feel listened to by the school, as required by *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. They receive a response if they raise a concern and suitable action is taken. Referrals to children's services and the local authority designated safeguarding officer (LADO) are detailed and timely and the school has a suitable relationship with outside agencies. Safeguarding and behavioural records are comprehensive. Pupils are supported in learning how to keep themselves safe, including online, through appropriate monitoring and the filtering of technology.
- 2.8 Suitable arrangements operate effectively to handle allegations against staff. Records show that the school seeks immediate advice from the LADO where required. Detailed records show that procedures are followed and suggested actions are undertaken promptly. The school understands its role in reporting any person to the relevant regulatory bodies where necessary. There is effective oversight by governors, and they carry out an annual review of safeguarding. Suitable recruitment procedures for staff are outlined in the policy. Governors receive suitable training in safeguarding.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – health and safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 11]

- 2.9 The school meets the standard.

- 2.10 Senior leaders ensure that an effective health and safety policy is implemented. This ensures that relevant health and safety laws are complied with. Records show that all required testing of utilities is systematically undertaken. Training for staff is comprehensive and any trends identified through monitoring are identified in order to mitigate incidents. The arrangements are sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed number of additional pupils.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – fire safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 12]

- 2.11 The school meets the standard.
- 2.12 The school has an appropriate fire prevention strategy. A suitably qualified person has carried out an effective fire risk assessment and a consequent action plan has been implemented. Staff and pupils understand fire procedures effectively following suitable training. Regular fire drills are undertaken. The arrangements are sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed number of additional pupils.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – supervision of pupils [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 14]

- 2.13 The school meets the standard.
- 2.14 Pupils at all ages of the school are properly supervised by suitably qualified and trained staff. The arrangements are sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed number of additional pupils.

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

- 2.15 The school meets the standard.
- 2.16 Senior leaders ensure effective risk assessments of buildings and educational visits as well as for sports and activities. Assessments are clear and include methods to be taken to identify and mitigate the risk. These include measures for when pupils are in school and arriving and departing from the building. Risk assessments for vulnerable pupils are managed through a 'traffic light' system by the DSL. The arrangements are sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed number of additional pupils.

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

- 2.17 The school meets the standards.
- 2.18 All statutory checks on staff, including supply staff, and members of the proprietorial body are carried out and completed before they take up their position. The arrangements are sufficient to meet the needs of the additional pupils.
- 2.19 The school maintains a comprehensive and accurate single central register of appointments which includes the dates on which the checks have been completed.

Premises and accommodation – toilets and changing accommodation; medical facilities; maintenance; acoustics; lighting; water supply and outdoor space [ISSR Part 5, paragraphs 23 to 29]

- 2.20 The school meets the standards.
- 2.21 Suitable toilet and changing accommodation and appropriate accommodation for pupils medical and therapy needs are provided. The premises are maintained to a suitable standard; acoustics and lighting are appropriate; and water provision is adequate. There is suitable outdoor space for physical

education and outdoor play. The current arrangements are sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed number of additional pupils.

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

- 2.22 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]

- 2.23 The school meets the standard.
- 2.24 The proprietor and senior leaders manage safeguarding and welfare arrangements effectively and monitor compliance with the standards and other statutory advice. They implement suitable policies, practices and procedures to enable this. The leadership and management fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are consistently met and the pupils' well-being is supported. The proposed small increase in numbers is manageable within the current structures of the school.

3. Recommendation with regard to material change inspection

Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the school's request to increase its numbers to 455 be approved as planning for the proposed increase across all areas is suitable. The proposed increase in numbers can be accommodated effectively within current arrangements.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspector held discussions with the principal, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with a director of the proprietorial group who also acts as the school's safeguarding governor. She visited different areas of the school and talked with groups of pupils. She scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.

Inspectors

Miss Sue Duff

Reporting inspector