



Material Change Inspection Report

Bosworth School

March 2024

School's details

School	Bosworth Independent School			
DfE number	941/6062			
Address	Bosworth Independent School Newton Building St George's Avenue Northampton NN2 6JB			
Telephone number	01604 239995			
Email address	reception@bosworthcollege.com			
Executive Headmaster	Mr Jason Lewis			
Chair of proprietors	Mr Christopher Stacey			
Proprietor	CEG Colleges Limited			
Age range	13 to 22			
Number of pupils on roll	245			
	Day pupils	61	Boarders	184
	Seniors	120	Sixth Form	125
Date of inspection	26 March 2024			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Bosworth Independent School is a co-educational independent day and boarding school in Northampton. It provides mostly one-year or two-year courses leading to GCSE, A level or University Foundation Programme (UFP) qualifications. The school is owned by CEG Colleges Limited which provides governance. Boarders are accommodated in two houses within walking distance of the academic school buildings. Older pupils aged over 18, who have school and parental consent, live semi-independently in one of two senior houses nearby. The school has 16 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). One pupil has an education, health and care plan. English is an additional language (EAL) for 194 pupils. The school's previous inspection was a regulatory compliance inspection in December 2022.

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 for a change to its lower age for entry to the school from 13 to 11, with the potential to include boarders. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs), and the National Minimum Standards for Boarding 2022.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 1, paragraphs 2 to 4 (curriculum; relationships and sex education; teaching; and assessment)	Met
Part 2, paragraph 5 (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils)	Met
Part 3, paragraphs 7 (safeguarding) and 8 (safeguarding of boarders); NMS 8	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management); NMS 2	Met

2. Inspection findings

Quality of education provided – curriculum, relationships and sex education (RSE), teaching and assessment [ISSR Part 1, paragraphs 2 to 4]

- 2.1 The school meets the standards.
- 2.2 The curriculum is suitably documented, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work for the pupils and covers the required breadth of material. It makes appropriate provision for the aptitudes and needs of individual pupils, including those with SEND or EAL. There is an appropriate proposed curriculum for pupils aged 11 to 13. A very small number of pupils in this age group have already begun to study at the school. The school provides appropriate personal, social and health education and up-to-date careers guidance. This has been suitably modified to suit the needs of pupils in Years 7 and 8.
- 2.3 Suitable RSE provision is made for all secondary age pupils and this includes appropriate schemes of work for pupils in Years 7 and 8. This is in line with statutory guidance. The statement of the school's provision is published, and parents consulted, appropriately.
- 2.4 Teaching enables pupils to make good progress, encompasses effective behaviour management and is supported by suitable resources. Suitable arrangements have been made to ensure that teachers have appropriate skills to teach the younger age group proposed. A suitable framework for the assessment of pupils' performance is implemented for pupils aged 11 to 13 alongside those for existing pupils. This includes the assessment of GCSE and A-level courses alongside UFP programmes, particularly for international pupils.
- 2.5 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements when the age limit for pupils is changed to include younger pupils in Years 7 and 8.

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

- 2.6 The school meets the standard.
- 2.7 The school's principles and values are actively promoted. Senior leaders aim to develop pupils as well educated, confident and resilient individuals, which are intrinsic to the school's ethos. This provision has been extended effectively to meet the needs of younger pupils. They facilitate the personal development of pupils as responsible, tolerant, law-abiding citizens in a multicultural environment. Whilst lessons provide for a suitable strong focus on British values throughout the school, they also encourage respect, tolerance and empathy towards the needs of those from other countries. This includes those with protected characteristics. Each pupil arrives with their own view of what is 'normal' and the discussions which ensue once ideas are shared extend pupils' learning and experience. In discussions, pupils articulated clearly the view that rules are necessary to ensure equality and fairness within society. A range of themed opportunities to explore sustainability and current affairs across the diverse school community engenders pupils' effective understanding of different cultures and the needs of a diverse world. Pupils develop age-appropriate democratic knowledge through classroom debates and the school council membership.
- 2.8 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements when the age limit for pupils is changed to include younger pupils in Years 7 and 8.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding and safeguarding of boarders [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8; NMS 8]

Safeguarding policy

- 2.9 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.10 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

- 2.11 The school meets the standards.
- 2.12 Scrutiny of records, observation and discussions with pupils and staff indicate that appropriate safeguards are implemented effectively, including in boarding. Those responsible for safeguarding hold senior positions within the school. They are suitably knowledgeable and appropriately trained, including for multi-agency working. Safeguarding, pastoral, healthcare and boarding staff share key information regularly and effectively. They take into account appropriately each individual pupil's physical and psychological needs and wishes, including those pupils with SEND or EAL. Staff have received guidance about the needs of younger pupils in Years 7 and 8. This information is used to agree appropriate action including the drawing-up and implementation of individual support plans. There is effective liaison with external agencies including referral to child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) and the local authority designated officer (LADO) for safeguarding. Training for other staff and for board members is conducted regularly as required. It is effective and includes informal updates.
- 2.13 Staff are suitably knowledgeable about changes in recent legislation, including the management of children's mental wellbeing, contextual safeguarding, child-on-child abuse, sexual harassment and sexual violence. They understand the principles underpinning the staff code of conduct and the procedures for making a referral, including the importance reporting of low-level concerns. Staff are confident about using whistleblowing procedures. In discussions, staff confirmed that training is thorough and safeguarding effectively managed. Senior leaders take appropriate action if any perceived breach of the staff code of conduct occurs, or an allegation is received with regard to an adult who works with children. They understand their responsibility to make referral to relevant statutory bodies once investigations by external agencies are completed.
- 2.14 The board member responsible for safeguarding meets regularly with those with designated safeguarding responsibilities. The board receives regular reports about safeguarding. These highlight appropriate details of any safeguarding incidents which occur, including during trips and outside of school. This ensures that board members have an appropriate level of understanding, scrutiny and oversight. This enables them to maintain effective oversight of safeguarding policies and their implementation throughout the whole school including in boarding. In addition to continuous monitoring, a suitable annual review of safeguarding is undertaken.
- 2.15 The school has a suitable staff recruitment policy and the proprietor ensures that all recruitment and other checks required by statutory guidance are undertaken, including in boarding.
- 2.16 Pupils know how to contact the school's independent listeners. Any concerns they raise are monitored and acted upon effectively by the safeguarding team. Records confirm that when pupils raise a concern, they receive a timely response and action is taken where needed. Boarders stated confidently that they receive a detailed induction when they start school. This includes how to contact helplines including Childline and the Children's Commissioner. All pupils receive effective guidance on how to stay safe, including when online, who to talk to if they have concerns, and behavioural expectations. Pupils could name a number of staff to whom they would turn if they are worried or

concerned. Any concerns raised are monitored and acted upon by the safeguarding team. Monitoring and filtering of technology is effective.

- 2.17 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements when the age limit for pupils is changed to include younger pupils in Years 7 and 8.

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

- 2.18 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; NMS 2]

- 2.19 The school meets the standards.
- 2.20 Senior leaders and board members, including those with specific responsibilities for safeguarding and boarding, demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that all the other standards are met consistently, and they actively promote the wellbeing of the pupils. The management of boarding is effective.

3. Recommendation with regard to material change inspection

Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the request to extend the age range of pupils from 13 to 22 to 11 to 22 with the introduction of Years 7 and 8 is granted.

4. Summary of evidence

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