Independent Schools Inspectorate

Progress Monitoring Inspection Report

The Gregg Preparatory School

July 2024

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School	The Gregg Preparatory School
DfE number	852/6005
Registered charity number	1089055
Address	The Gregg Preparatory School
	17-19 Winn Road
	Southampton
	Hampshire
	SO17 1EJ
Telephone number	02380 557352
Email address	office@thegreggprep.org
Headteacher	Mr Matt Pascoe
Chair of governors	Mrs Jo Preston
Proprietor	The Gregg Schools Trust
Age range	4 to 11
Number of pupils on roll	90
	EYFS 9 Juniors 81
Date of inspection	02 July 2024

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1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

1.1 The Gregg Preparatory School is a co-educational day school, located in Southampton. It is part of The Gregg Schools Trust which is overseen by a board of trustees, known as governors. The school is organised into an early years section, comprising one Reception class, and a junior section for pupils aged six to eleven. The school has 23 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities. Two pupils have an education, health and care plan. English is an additional language for five pupils. The school's previous inspection was a routine inspection in November 2023.

Purpose of the inspection

1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the routine inspection on 14 to 16 November 2023. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs) and the requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding); EYFS 3.4 and 3.7	Met
Part 3, paragraph 12 (fire safety); EYFS 3.65	Met
Part 3, paragraph 16 (risk assessment): EYFS 3.74 and 3.76	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management)	Met

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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.
- The school's safeguarding arrangements are implemented effectively to ensure the welfare of pupils, including children in the early years. Discussions with both staff and pupils confirm that leaders have established a positive culture of safeguarding to which all can contribute and where all concerns are listened to and acted upon swiftly. Pupils confirmed that they can approach staff if they are worried, knowing that they will be listened to and that appropriate action will be taken to support them. Records of safeguarding confirm that this happens in practice. Online safety, including the monitoring and filtering of technology, are handled effectively by the school and overseen appropriately by the designated safeguarding lead and proprietors. Pupils confirmed that the school provides clear guidance to help them to keep safe online.
- 2.5 The safeguarding team has a secure oversight of safeguarding arrangements. It has ensured that detailed confidential records are now kept of any concerns. These confirm that senior leaders work within locally agreed inter-agency procedures and that any referrals of safeguarding concerns are now made to the appropriate agencies in a timely manner.
- 2.6 Governors now maintain effective oversight of the school's safeguarding procedures. Those responsible for safeguarding both hold current designated safeguarding lead training from the local safeguarding partnership. They ensure that an annual review of the school's safeguarding arrangements is carried out and shared with the governing board. The review is sufficiently detailed to meet local safeguarding partnership requirements.
- 2.7 All staff, including leaders, governors and those with specific safeguarding responsibility, are trained appropriately in safeguarding. Staff show confident understanding of the training they receive, including that regarding signs of abuse, child-on-child abuse and also areas such as mental health, sexual violence and harassment. Regular updates to training supplement the ongoing annual training received by all staff, and appropriate induction for new staff. Staff have a confident understanding of the process for referral should there be any concerns. This now includes how to communicate any low-level concerns about a colleague. They understand the school's code of conduct for staff and the whistleblowing policy. They know how to contact children's services directly, should the need arise.
- 2.8 There is an appropriate Prevent strategy in place which is suitably implemented.

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

- 2.9 The school meets the standard.
- 2.10 Since the previous inspection, governors have taken comprehensive measures to ensure that the appointed person designated for ensuring fire safety has received suitable training to be able to carry out the role effectively. They have also ensured that additional key staff have received the same training, so that there is adequate cover in place should the appointed person be absent. There is a

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sufficient number of staff trained as fire marshals. A suitable fire risk assessment is in place. Staff and pupils confirm that regular and varied fire drills take place.

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

- 2.11 The school meets the standard and the requirements.
- 2.12 A suitable system for monitoring the assessment of risk to pupils in the school has now been implemented. A new risk register is in place, overseen by leaders and monitored by governors. This identifies all risk assessments which are considered necessary and monitors their current status effectively. Scrutiny of risk assessments confirms that they are suitably detailed, considering both the context of the activity and the ages of the pupils involved. All risk assessments are now reviewed and authorised by senior leaders.

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

2.13 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]

- 2.14 The school meets the standard.
- 2.15 The school's leadership and management now demonstrate the required skills and knowledge to ensure that all standards are met consistently. They have ensured that the action plan required following the previous inspection has been fully implemented. Leaders take appropriate action, supported by effective proprietorial oversight and challenge. They apply these skills and knowledge effectively to ensure that they fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the wellbeing of pupils is actively promoted.

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3. Regulatory action points

3.1 For the regulations which were the focus of this inspection, the school meets all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework, and no further action is required as a result of this inspection.

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4. Summary of evidence

4.1 The inspectors held discussions with senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the chair of governors. They visited different areas of the school and talked with groups of pupils and staff. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.