



**ISI** Independent  
Schools  
Inspectorate

**Material Change Inspection Report**

**Claremont Fan Court School**

**November 2022**

## School's details

<b>School</b>	Claremont Fan Court School			
<b>DfE number</b>	936/6032			
<b>Registered charity number</b>	274664			
<b>Address</b>	Claremont Fan Court School Claremont Drive Esher Surrey KT10 9LY			
<b>Telephone number</b>	01372 467841			
<b>Email address</b>	info@claremont.surrey.sch.uk			
<b>Headmaster</b>	Mr William Brierly			
<b>Chair of governors</b>	Mr Andrew Sutherland			
<b>Age range</b>	2½ to 18			
<b>Number of pupils on roll</b>	1101			
	<b>EYFS</b>	82	<b>Prep</b>	284
	<b>Seniors</b>	585	<b>Sixth Form</b>	150
<b>Date of inspection</b>	7 November 2022			

## 1. Introduction

### Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Claremont Fan Court School is a co-educational day school. It is a registered charity, overseen by a board of governors. The school is structured into three sections: pre-prep for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and pupils in Years 1 and 2; the prep school for pupils in Years 3 to 6; and the senior school for pupils in Years 7 to 13. The school has identified 139 pupils as having special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). There are 54 pupils who have English as an additional language (EAL). One pupil has an educational or health care (EHC) plan. The school's previous inspection was a regulatory compliance inspection in September 2021.

### 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 its registered capacity from 1100 to 1200. 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)	<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 to 21 (suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors)	<b>Met</b>
Part 5, paragraphs 23 to 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

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

#### Safeguarding policy

- 2.1 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

- 2.2 The school meets the standard.
- 2.3 Safeguarding procedures are suitably implemented in line with *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE) 2022, including in the EYFS. Records of regular meetings indicate that the safeguarding team works closely together to promote pupils' wellbeing effectively. The team ensures that suitable 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 if they do so they receive a timely response and outcome. Safeguarding records confirm this, and that action is taken when pupils' specific needs are identified. The safeguarding team has dealt with any incidents of online sexual harassment since the previous inspection efficiently. This has included seeking external advice when necessary. Pupils are given suitable guidance regarding online safety. The school maintains appropriate safeguards for the use of technology and these are overseen by the proprietors. Staff are clear about whether pupils are respectively in need or at risk. They understand that if any pupils are victims of harmful sexual behaviour or potentially so, safeguarding partners and the police must be contacted promptly.
- 2.4 Senior leaders monitor detailed school records of all safeguarding concerns regularly 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. This includes understanding whistleblowing procedures and the staff code of conduct. Staff confirmed that they would know how to respond if a situation of child-on-child 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.
- 2.5 Suitable arrangements for handling allegations against staff are included in safeguarding procedures. 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. This includes provision for appropriate recruitment checks on staff. Proprietors have all received effective safeguarding training and they receive regular updates. Discussions with a governor and members of the leadership team demonstrated that they have given appropriate thought to the proposed intake of additional pupils. They have considered with suitable care related safeguarding arrangements and procedures.
- 2.6 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with an increase in pupil numbers from 1100 to 1200.

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

- 2.7 The school meets the standards.
- 2.8 Health and safety within the school are promoted appropriately and there is a suitable written health and safety policy. Systematic procedures are implemented effectively and outcomes are regularly reviewed by governors. A suitable fire safety policy is in place. Procedures for emergency evacuation are implemented effectively, with regular fire drills held and suitably recorded. Suitable fire risk assessments for all school buildings have been undertaken with any recommended actions being addressed. Fire signage is clear throughout and there are sufficient members of staff in place to manage any emergency evacuation.
- 2.9 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with an increase in pupil numbers from 1100 to 1200.

**Welfare, health and safety of pupils – supervision of pupils and risk assessment [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 14 and 16]**

- 2.10 The school meets the standards.
- 2.11 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 proposed increase in numbers takes place, including appropriate ratios of staff to children in the EYFS. 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 operate effectively for all offsite visits and for areas of the school such as the science laboratory and recreation areas. Risks to those pupils considered vulnerable or to have particular needs are assessed effectively and suitable measures are implemented to mitigate risks identified.
- 2.12 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with an increase in pupil numbers from 1100 to 1200.

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

- 2.13 The school meets the standards.
- 2.14 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.
- 2.15 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with an increase in pupil numbers from 1100 to 1200.

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

- 2.16 The school meets the standards.
- 2.17 A tour of the school premises demonstrated that the current site provides appropriate provision for an increase in its registered capacity from 1100 to 1200. Existing classrooms have capacity for additional pupils in each of the year groups and a recent reorganisation of existing accommodation has created further teaching spaces for pupils in the sixth form. Dining arrangements have been appropriately considered with a second large dining facility nearing completion. There are sufficient toilets, wash hand basins and showering and changing facilities for the proposed increase in numbers.

Appropriate medical facilities are provided. Throughout the school, furnishings and resources are of a suitable quality. The site is maintained in a suitable state of repair and regularly monitored for safety with any maintenance issues being promptly addressed. Acoustics effectively promote learning. External lighting ensures all areas are appropriately lit. Effective provision is in place for pupils to have easy access to drinking water. There is sufficient space for outdoor activities and recreation.

- 2.18 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with an increase in pupil numbers from 1100 to 1200.

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

- 2.19 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]**

- 2.20 The school meets the standard.
- 2.21 Senior leaders and governors 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 wellbeing of the pupils is ensured. The proprietors and the senior leaders have considered with suitable care what measures are necessary to introduce an extra 100 pupils into the school. The school is suitably prepared for the proposed material change.
- 2.22 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements with an increase in pupil numbers from 1100 to 1200.

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

#### **Recommendation**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the school's proposal to increase its registered capacity from 1100 to 1200 be approved. The school has effectively considered and planned for the accommodation and safeguarding needs of the additional pupils.

## **4. Summary of evidence**

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

### **Inspectors**

Mrs Bridget Windley

Reporting inspector