

Report for a Progress Monitoring Visit

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|----|----------------|----|
| School name | Oholei Yosef Yitzchok Lubavitch School | | | |
| DfE number | 355/6028 | | | |
| Registered charity number | 104630 | | | |
| Address | 460 Bury New Road Salford Lancashire M7 4LH | | | |
| Headteacher | Mrs Janet Hanson | | | |
| Chair of governors | Rabbi David Hickson | | | |
| Number of pupils on roll | 128 | | | |
| | Boys | 59 | Girls | 69 |
| | EYFS | 25 | Juniors | 62 |
| | Seniors | 41 | | |
| Date of visit | 22 May 2019 | | | |

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Opened in 1997, Oholei Yosef Yitzchok Lubavitch School is a Jewish independent day school for pupils aged from two to seventeen years. Although it is co-educational, boys and girls are taught separately from five to seventeen years at separate sites. The school is a registered charity, owned by the Lubavitch community, who are responsible for its governance. Pupils come from Jewish families in Manchester and other areas in the north west of England. The school has identified 18 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities, all of whom receive additional specialist help. No pupil in the school has an education, health and care plan. English is an additional language for 20 pupils, whose needs are supported by their classroom teachers. The school's previous inspection was a progress monitoring visit in November 2018.

Purpose of the visit

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring visit at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the previous short visit inspection on 8 November 2018.

| Regulations which were the focus of the visit | Team judgements |
|--|-----------------|
| ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 (safeguarding) | Met |
| ISSR Part 4, paragraphs 18–21 (suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors) | Met |
| ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32 (provision of information) | Met |
| ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34 (quality of 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 requirement.
- 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 The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school and is available from the school office. It has due regard to Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE September 2018) and is appropriate for the specific needs of the school. In September 2018 staff received the most recent copy of Part 1 of the revised guidance, and relevant staff have been issued with Annex A. They have signed to confirm that they have received and read the documents, and the school has taken steps to ensure that staff understand them, through staff meetings held at the start of the autumn term, and on-line assessment tasks. The associated whistleblowing and safe recruitment policies, and the staff code of conduct, also meet current requirements and meet pupils' needs. Staff interviewed displayed good awareness of safeguarding policy advice and requirements. The school's designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and the governing body have undertaken an annual review of safeguarding procedures and an additional within-year NSPCC safeguarding audit.
- 2.5 The higher-level training for the DSL and deputy DSL is up to date and the DSL is aware of local referral thresholds. Induction training for new staff includes the issue of all the required documents and recently appointed staff confirm they have received these along with specific associated training. In addition, staff have taken part in a range of additional training opportunities, both on-line and face-to-face, during the last school year. These have covered aspects such as awareness of peer-on-peer abuse, extremism and radicalisation issues. The on-line safety of pupils is a high priority and recent guidance and training for staff and pupils indicates an appropriate focus on both the safeguarding and technological aspects of the use and misuse of digital media, and suitable filtering systems are in place. Welfare concerns raised by staff are efficiently and accurately logged by the DSL. Senior leaders and the chair of governors confirmed their appropriate engagement in safeguarding matters which have occurred since the previous inspection, which was supported by documentary evidence. There is a designated governor for safeguarding who maintains close liaison with the DSL.

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

- 2.6 The school meets the standards.
- 2.7 Those responsible for appointments follow statutory guidance with regard to carrying out all required recruitment checks, in particular by obtaining employment histories and references for all staff. All checks are completed before staff appointed to the school start work, including scrutiny of their employment history and investigation of any gaps. The single central register of appointments is completed and maintained appropriately, and all required documents regarding checks on staff and others are available in their individual personnel files. Senior leaders and governors monitor practice, and the person responsible for administering recruitment procedures has received appropriate training in safe recruitment.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32]

- 2.8 The school meets the requirements for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents. Particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are provided to parents on request, as the school has no website.

Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34]

- 2.9 The school meets the standard.
- 2.10 The proprietor has ensured that those with leadership and management responsibilities at the school demonstrate good skills and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the other standards are consistently met and they actively promote the well-being of the pupils.

3. Regulatory action points

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

4. Summary of evidence

Written materials

- Safeguarding policy;
- Whistle blowing policy;
- The code of conduct for staff;
- Record of safeguarding training for head and all staff;
- Governors' minutes with regard to the annual review of the safeguarding/child protection policy and procedures;
- The written recruitment procedure;
- Evidence of referrals/consultations (Children's Services, local authority designated officer, Disclosure and Barring Service and Teaching Regulation Agency)
- Evidence of any allegations reported to the head or to the chair of governors;
- The single central register of admissions (SCR);
- Selected personnel files.

Meetings with school personnel

- An introductory meeting with head – to discuss arrangements for the day and to provide initial thoughts on areas specified as focus for the visit;
- A meeting with the DSL – to discuss implementation of safeguarding policy, training and induction of new staff;
- A meeting with person responsible for carrying out staff recruitment checks – to review school's recruitment procedures, to scrutinise single central register of appointments and to check staff recruitment files.

Activities on site

- Further scrutiny and evaluation of implementation of policies and documentation (as detailed above);
- A meeting with a total of five teaching and non-teaching staff, selected by inspectors, to discuss their training and safeguarding;
- A meeting with six pupils, selected by the inspectors, to explore what it is like to be a pupil at the school;
- A meeting with the chair of governors;
- A meeting of inspectors;
- A meeting with the head and chair of governors to explain findings.