



Material Change Inspection Report

Cambridge Street School

September 2023

School's details

School	Cambridge Street School	
DfE number	382/6004	
Address	Cambridge Street School Cambridge Street Batley West Yorkshire WF17 5QW	
Telephone number	01924 527911	
Email address	admin@cambridgestreetschool.co.uk	
Headteacher	Mr Suleman Collector	
Chair of governors	Mr Abdul Jaber Ahmed	
Proprietor	Cambridge Street School Governing Body	
Age range	11 to 16	
Number of pupils on roll	107	
	Seniors	107
Date of inspection	12 September 2023	

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Cambridge Street School is an independent day school with religious ethos for male pupils. The school is based on a single site in a residential area of the town of Batley. The governing body is also the proprietorial board. The school has no pupils who require support for special needs and/or disabilities (SEND). No pupil has an education, health and care plan, and there are no pupils who speak English as an additional language. The school's previous inspection was a regulatory compliance inspection in September 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 to increase its total capacity from 100 to 180 pupils and to add a sixth form, thereby extending the upper age limit from 16 to 19. 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 1, paragraph 2 (curriculum)	Met
Part 1, paragraph 2A (relationships and sex education)	Met
Part 1, paragraph 3 (teaching)	Met
Part 1, paragraph 4 (framework for pupil performance)	Met
Part 2, paragraph 5 (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils)	Met
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 18–21 (suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors)	Met
Part 5, paragraphs 23–29 (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

Quality of education provided – curriculum [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 2]

- 2.1 The school meets the standard.
- 2.2 The school has a suitable curriculum policy, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work, which is effectively implemented. The curriculum covers all the required areas of learning and takes into account pupils' individual needs. Suitable procedures exist for the identification of additional support if any pupil is identified as having SEND. The school ensures that all pupils have the opportunity to make progress, effectively prepares pupils for their future life and provides for pupils to receive up-to-date careers guidance. Suitable plans are in place to ensure that the curriculum for pupils at ages 16 to 19 will be similarly effective, including the provision of a programme of activities appropriate to the needs of older pupils.

Quality of education provided – relationships and sex education [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 2A]

- 2.3 The school meets the standard.
- 2.4 The school ensures that all pupils are provided with relationships and sex education that is in line with statutory guidance, except where a pupil's parent requests that the pupil is wholly or partly excused from sex education. The school publishes a written statement of its policy and consults parents before making any changes. Pupils confirmed that they are able to discuss matters of concern or interest in an open and frank manner. These include aspects of gender and/or sexuality which are included in statutory guidance.

Quality of education provided – teaching [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 3]

- 2.5 The school meets the standard.
- 2.6 Teaching enables pupils to acquire new knowledge and make good progress across the curriculum. It ensures appropriate behaviour, motivation and engagement in lessons. Teaching does not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. The school has made appropriate plans for the admission of older pupils and is likely to meet requirements when the proposed changes are made. This includes employing staff with suitable subject knowledge and teaching experience who are confident to teach at sixth-form level.

Quality of education provided – framework for pupils' performance [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 4]

- 2.7 The school meets the standard.
- 2.8 The school has established an effective system of assessing pupils against suitable criteria which reflect the school's aims and national benchmarks. This gives pupils and their parents a sense of how well pupils are progressing and how they might improve. The school is likely to continue to meet requirements when sixth formers are admitted.

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

- 2.9 The school meets the standard.
- 2.10 The school actively promotes principles which enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. It effectively promotes pupils' understanding of right and wrong; encourages them to take responsibility for their own behaviour; and promotes kindness and respect for others. It promotes respect for those with protected characteristics so that pupils understand that everyone is different and should be treated equally, regardless of beliefs or background. It is likely to continue to meet the requirements with the introduction of older pupils.

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

Safeguarding policy

- 2.11 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.12 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

- 2.13 The school meets the standard.
- 2.14 Safeguarding procedures are suitably implemented in line with *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE) 2023. The DSL and his deputy work effectively to promote the wellbeing of pupils. In discussion, pupils confirmed that they can raise any concerns with any member of staff and that, if they do so, they receive an appropriate response. Safeguarding records confirm that the school acts swiftly to respond to any concerns it receives about pupils and that it liaises appropriately with local agencies. Pupils receive suitable advice about online safety and the school has effective systems in place to filter and monitor the internet.
- 2.15 Staff, including those with leadership responsibility for safeguarding, are suitably trained. All staff complete training in the risks associated with terrorism and extremism. Records are systematically kept and show that training for all staff is current, appropriate and in line with local safeguarding requirements. In discussion, staff demonstrated a clear understanding of how to report any concerns they may have about adults in the school and confirmed that they would do so without hesitation. There is an appropriate approach to reporting low-level concerns about adults working with children and a suitable log is kept. Staff are particularly aware of the vulnerability of any pupils who may be identified as having SEND and are alert to concerns about pupils' mental health. Staff confirm that they are aware of the procedures necessary to minimise the risk of child-on-child abuse and recognise the possibility that such abuse may be taking place without being reported.
- 2.16 Effective procedures are implemented to ensure that appropriate and timely checks are made to confirm the suitability of staff. The proprietor exercises suitable oversight of the school's safeguarding arrangements and governors are trained appropriately in safeguarding. Oversight is maintained through an annual review of policy and procedures, in addition to regular monitoring of safeguarding arrangements, including recruitment checks.
- 2.17 The school is alert to any additional safeguarding needs which may arise when sixth-form pupils are admitted and is likely to continue to meet the requirements when that occurs and if pupil numbers are increased.

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

- 2.18 The school meets the standard.
- 2.19 The proprietor ensures that the school complies with relevant health and safety laws by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written health and safety policy. Systematic records show that utilities, plant and equipment are tested on a regular basis. There are effective avenues for staff to report concerns about health and safety issues, which enable trends to be identified and risks to be mitigated. Current arrangements indicate that the school is likely to continue to meet the standard when the pupil roll is increased and sixth-form pupils are admitted.

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

- 2.20 The school meets the standard.
- 2.21 The school has a suitable fire safety policy which includes the elimination of risks from dangerous substances. A fire risk assessment of the premises has been undertaken by a suitably qualified external consultant. Procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are well understood by staff and pupils. Termly fire drills are carried out and recorded. The arrangements are likely to be sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed increase in pupil numbers and upper age limit.

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

- 2.22 The school meets the standard.
- 2.23 Pupils are appropriately supervised through the effective deployment of staff. Current arrangements indicate that the school is likely to continue to meet the standard when the pupil roll and upper age limit are increased.

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

- 2.24 The school meets the standard.
- 2.25 The school's risk assessment policy clearly describes the roles and responsibilities of staff in identifying and mitigating risk. Appropriate and suitably thorough risk assessments are drawn up for all areas of the site, in-school activities and trips and visits. The school has effectively considered any risk associated with accepting sixth-form pupils. The needs of individual pupils are also taken into account where risk is identified. The arrangements are likely to be sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed increase in pupil numbers.

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

- 2.26 The school meets the standards.
- 2.27 All the required checks are undertaken on staff, governors and volunteers before they take up their posts. The school does not employ supply staff. A register is kept as required and all appointments are accurately and fully recorded. These arrangements suggest that the school is likely to continue to meet the standards when pupil numbers increase.

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

- 2.28 The school meets the standards.

2.29 Suitable toilet and changing facilities, showering facilities where required by the standard, and appropriate accommodation for pupils' medical and therapy needs are provided. Additional facilities have been installed to meet the increase in the total number of pupils. The premises, including teaching accommodation and social areas for pupils are maintained to a standard commensurate with health and safety. Acoustics and lighting are appropriate and water provision is adequate. Suitable outdoor space is provided for physical education and outdoor play. The current provision is likely to be sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed increase in pupil numbers and those of pupils of sixth-form age, such as recreational space.

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

2.30 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]

2.31 The school meets the standard.

2.32 School leaders and governors demonstrate good skills and knowledge, and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the independent school standards are consistently met, and the wellbeing of the pupils is actively promoted. Operational planning for the proposed increase in numbers and for the introduction of sixth-form pupils is strategic and comprehensive.

3. Recommendation with regard to material change inspection

3.1 It is recommended that the material change be approved.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspectors held discussions with the head, 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. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.