



Progress Monitoring Inspection Report

Brockwood Park School

February 2024

School's details

School name	Brockwood Park School			
DfE number	850/6069			
Registered charity number	312865			
Address	Brockwood Park School Brockwood Park Bramdean Hampshire SO24 0LQ			
Telephone number	01962 771744			
Email address	admin@brockwood.org.uk			
Principal	Mr Thomas Lehmann			
Chair of trustees	Mrs Wendy Smith			
Proprietor	Krishnamurti Foundation Trust			
Age Range	4 to 20			
Number of pupils on roll	84			
	Day pupils	20	Boarders	64
	EYFS	2	Juniors	18
	Seniors	20	Sixth Form	44
Date of inspection	5 February 2024			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Brockwood Park School was established in 1969. It is an international co-educational day and boarding school. Children in the early years and pupils up to Year 6 are accommodated in Inwoods Small School, a separate site located close to the senior school, within Brockwood Park. All pupils in the senior school are boarders. They are accommodated in separate wings of the main house designated for male and female boarders. Governance is the responsibility of the Krishnamurti Foundation Trust Limited, a charitable company overseen by a group of five trustees. The school has identified 14 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). No pupil in the school has an education, health and care plan. English is an additional language (EAL) for 34 pupils. The school's previous inspection was an additional inspection in February 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 additional inspection on 8 to 9 February 2023. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs), the National Minimum Standards for Boarding 2022 and the requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework. The visit was focused in the senior school.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Paragraphs 7 (safeguarding) and 8 (safeguarding of boarders); NMS 8 and 9	Met
Paragraph 11 (health & safety); NMS 9	Met
Paragraph 16 (risk assessment); NMS 9	Met
Paragraph 34 (leadership & management); NMS 2	Met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding and safeguarding of boarders [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8; NMS 8 and 9]

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 standards.
- 2.4 Implementation of all aspects of the school's safeguarding procedures is effective in providing appropriate support for the needs of the pupils, including boarders. Staff demonstrate appropriate knowledge of the safeguarding procedures. They understand the code of conduct for staff and the school's whistleblowing procedures. Staff show an understanding of their responsibilities and fulfil them effectively. They understand the particular vulnerability of pupils with SEND and provide appropriate support for the welfare of such pupils. Staff have a suitable knowledge of the thresholds for reporting potential issues, including child-on-child abuse. Risk assessments for boarding now fully identify and adequately consider risks associated with pupils of different genders mixing freely and mitigate the risks identified, including those relating to older pupils. Staff are aware of who to go to if they have a concern or receive a disclosure and that they can make a direct referral to children's services if necessary. The safeguarding policy provides appropriate contact details for local agencies.
- 2.5 Discussions with the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and the safeguarding team confirmed that pupils receive guidance on how to respond to issues if they arise. Training for staff is of sufficient frequency and quality and those with specific safeguarding responsibilities have training in line with statutory advice and local requirements. Records of training attendance are kept by the DSL.
- 2.6 Pupils confirm that they feel listened to by the school, as required by *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. They receive a response if they raise a concern and suitable action is taken. Records seen relating to safeguarding concerns are comprehensive and indicate that the school deals appropriately with issues to support and safeguard pupils. Staff, including senior leaders and trustees, listen to the views of the pupils effectively. There are various methods for pupils to voice concerns to an adult. These include daily interactions, more formal weekly meetings and contact with the external independent listener for boarders. The DSL and safeguarding team act immediately on any early signs of risk. They monitor pupils through various systems, the results being shared with the staff and trustees as appropriate. Referrals to children's services and the local authority designated safeguarding officer (LADO) are detailed and timely, and the school has a good relationship with outside agencies. Pupils are supported in learning how to keep themselves safe, including online, and there is appropriate monitoring and the filtering of technology. Pupils are not permitted access to their smart telephones except on Saturdays.
- 2.7 Suitable arrangements to handle allegations against staff operate effectively. Records show that the school seeks immediate advice from the LADO where required. All staff particularly understand the importance of and the method of reporting low level concerns and the lines of referral for disclosures about colleagues and pupils. Detailed records show that procedures are followed and suggested actions are undertaken promptly. The school understands its role in reporting any person to the relevant regulatory bodies where necessary. There is effective oversight by trustees, and they carry

out an annual review of safeguarding. Suitable recruitment procedures for staff are outlined in the safeguarding policy.

- 2.8 The trustees of the school have now undertaken appropriate training to ensure that they have sufficient knowledge to maintain suitable oversight of safeguarding, in particular, record keeping and safeguarding risk assessments.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – health and safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 11; NMS 9]

- 2.9 The school meets the standards.
- 2.10 There is a suitable health and safety policy which is implemented effectively by the school, ensuring that all relevant laws are complied with. Training in health and safety is comprehensive throughout the school. Additional training has been undertaken since the previous inspection for trustees, staff and pupils particularly regarding the use and storage of hazardous materials, including cleaning materials. All materials are stored securely and locked with staff access only. Ongoing training includes clear understanding of effective and safe usage of any materials. There is a database for the use of hazardous materials and ongoing risk mitigation through the use of individual and collective risk assessments.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – risk assessment [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 16; NMS 9]

- 2.11 The school meets the standards.
- 2.12 The school has an effective whole school risk assessment policy. There are risk assessments for school buildings and boarding house areas as well as aspects such as activities and sports. There is a suitable boarding risk assessment relating to pupils up to 20 years of age living alongside younger pupils. There are now suitable risk assessments in connection with chemicals, their storage and usage. All housekeeping areas are effectively risk assessed. All risk assessments seen were clear and included suitable approaches to take to identify and mitigate risks. There are specific and effective plans which assess risks for vulnerable pupils which are managed through the DSL and the safeguarding team.

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; NMS 2]

- 2.14 The school meets the standards.
- 2.15 The school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the previous inspection. The trustees ensure that leadership and management demonstrate good skills and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, including through clear management of boarding and effective implementation of safeguarding training for boarding staff, so that all standards are met consistently. They actively promote the wellbeing of pupils, including boarders.

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 the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2022 and requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework, and no further action is required as a result of this inspection.

4. Summary of evidence

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