

VITA ET PAX SCHOOL

6a Priory Chase, Green Road, Southgate, London, N14 4AT

17 NOVEMBER 2017

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SCHOOL

Vita et Pax School is a co-educational day school for pupils between the ages of three and eleven years. It is located in Southgate, London. The school is a charitable trust governed by a council of management.

At the time of the visit, there were 158 pupils on roll; 60 boys and 98 girls. Of these, 37 are in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The school has identified 14 pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) all of whom receive support for their learning. There are no pupils who have an education, health and care (EHC) plan or statement of educational needs. No pupils have English as an additional language (EAL).

PURPOSE OF THE VISIT

This was an announced progress monitoring visit at the request of the Department for Education to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the regulatory compliance inspection in May 2017. The focus of the visit was on safeguarding policy and implementation, welfare health and safety, particularly fire safety, and premises, particularly arrangements for the control and management of risk of legionella within the school.

INSPECTION FINDINGS

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 (a) and (b); EYFS requirement 3.4 – 3.8] Provision of information to parents [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32 (1) (c)]

The school meets the regulation and requirements.

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. The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.

Safeguarding arrangements are correctly implemented and provide appropriate support for pupils' needs. All staff, including those who are regular visitors to the school, have received training in recent changes to regulatory guidance and on-line safety. New staff receive comprehensive induction training to ensure they understand their safeguarding responsibilities, including the staff code of conduct. The designated safeguarding leader (DSL) and deputy (DDSL) are both members of the senior leadership team, and have appropriate levels of training for their roles, which is in line with local procedures. The DDSL is the designated EYFS safeguarding lead and has appropriate knowledge about ensuring the welfare and well-being of young children. The DSL regularly provides informal updates on any changes to safeguarding policy and its implementation and at each staff meeting gives opportunity for staff to discuss and contribute to safeguarding arrangements. During discussions, staff demonstrate that they have a clear understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities. They recognise the importance of 'early help' strategies and know how to report any concerns about pupils or other staff, and state

that any concerns about senior leaders are reported to the designated safeguarding governor or in their absence to the LADO directly. Additionally, they acknowledge the importance of disclosing any required changes in personal circumstance to the senior leadership and state that use of personal mobile phones and cameras is not permitted whilst pupils are present in school. Appropriate records for safeguarding concerns are kept, which are regularly monitored by the DSL. These show timely and appropriate liaison with both parents and local agencies. The proprietors undertake an annual safeguarding review with due diligence, demonstrating rigour in their oversight of arrangements. Pupils, during discussions, comment that they feel safe and are aware of safeguarding arrangements in school, including on-line safety. They articulate that they feel they are treated fairly and that staff are very approachable, should they have a concern or worry.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils [ISSR Part 3 paragraph 12; EYFS requirements 3.54-3.56]

The school does not meet the regulations and requirements.

Staff have now been provided with fire training appropriate to their role to assist in taking preventative and protective measures (including firefighting and evacuation). The school's designated responsible person and the senior management team have completed a two-day course for fire marshals. The staff have been trained in fire awareness. However, preventative and protective measures for fire safety have not always been addressed appropriately. Action points from the most recent specialist fire risk assessment have not been completed in a timely manner and many are still outstanding. Additionally, the recording of fire drills and regular weekly testing of the fire system does not meet requirements and logs are inappropriately stored in open areas of the school.

Premises and accommodation [ISSR Part 5 paragraphs 22- 29; EYFS requirements 3.57 – 3.63]

The school meets the regulations and requirements.

Responsibility for the management of the risk of legionella within the school has been assigned and appropriate records are kept of action taken to prevent or control risk. An external risk assessment has been completed since the previous inspection and all recommendations have been met including the recording of the temperature of hot and cold-water supplies at monthly intervals and the flushing of water outlets that are used infrequently or following a school holiday. Water tanks are now checked annually.

REGULATORY ACTION POINTS

ISSR Part 3, Welfare, Health and Safety, paragraph 12

- Ensure that appropriate preventative and protective measures for fire safety are carried out and monitored by the senior leadership team and proprietors.
- Ensure that recommended action points identified on the recent fire risk assessment are completed in a timely manner.
- Ensure that records of all fire checks, including evacuation drills, are sufficiently detailed to provide useful information for future improvement of the fire arrangements and that they are stored securely.