

Gretton School

Manor Farm Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0RX

Overall outcome

Residential provision

The school meets all of the national minimum standards that were checked during this inspection

Main inspection findings

The overall experiences and progress of children

- On 5 February 2019, Ofsted undertook a full inspection of this school. At that inspection, the school was judged as good overall. However, two national minimum standards were unmet.
- This progress monitoring visit was undertaken to monitor whether the school's action plan had been implemented and to identify whether the school is now meeting the previously unmet national minimum standards.
- This visit found that both national minimum standards are now met.
- At the full inspection on 5 February 2019, national minimum standard 6.3 was unmet because the system for recording safeguarding concerns did not provide a clear overview of safeguarding concerns that relate to the residential provision. It was therefore difficult to ascertain the number of issues since the last inspection. Although allegations and concerns were managed effectively, the outcome of actions was not always clearly recorded. This made it difficult to see what the risks were to children and how they were being managed in the residential provision. In addition, some risk assessments were not dated and did not demonstrate how risks have reduced or increased over time.
- This progress monitoring visit found that the school has introduced a new, significantly improved system to manage safeguarding concerns. Records are clear, provide an audit trail for monitoring and have the potential to result in further improvements. The system is new and there are some teething problems as implementation occurs. These issues are being monitored by designated staff. Designated safeguarding staff have received training from the system provider. All staff have had training provided on development days.
- The new system shows that all residential staff have read the update to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and all staff have received a copy of the updated safeguarding policy.
- The actions taken mean that national minimum standard 6.3 is now met.
- At the full inspection on 5 February 2019, national minimum standard 22.1 was unmet because staff did not clearly record children's progress. Several documents were undated and some were missing information. There was little information to provide reliable evidence of the impact that staying in the residential provision had on children's academic progress. This had been identified by the principal and the head of care as an area that needed to improve.
- This progress monitoring visit found that the management team has made progress in addressing the shortfall. A new approach to recording progress, linked to the

children's education, health and care plan outcomes, has been introduced. This is in its infancy. The head of care is considered and reflective in her approach, recognising that the system will need fine-tuning as it is implemented.

- All records seen included the date of completion.
- The actions taken mean that national minimum standard 22.1 is now met.

Compliance with national minimum standards for residential special schools

The school now meets the following national minimum standards for residential special schools

- The school ensures that the welfare of pupils at the school is safeguarded and promoted by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written risk assessment policy and appropriate action is taken to reduce risks that are identified. (NMS 6.3)
- Every child has an accurate, permanent record of their history and progress which can be read by the child at any time (except where the data controller is not obliged to supply the information to the child), and add personal statements or statements correcting errors. (NMS 22.1)

School details

Unique reference number	136047
Social care unique reference number	SC425708
DfE registration number	873/6048
Inspection number	10123349

The inspection of residential provision was carried out under the Children Act 1989, as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000, having regard to the national minimum standards for residential special schools.

Type of school	Residential special school
School status	Independent residential special school
Age range of pupils	5–19
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	117
Number of boarders on roll	10
Principal	Ian Thorsteinsson
Head of residential provision	Emma Nelson
Telephone number	01223 277438
Website	http://grettonschool.com/
Email address	info@grettonschool.com
Date of previous residential inspection	5 February 2019

Information about this school

- Gretton school is a privately owned, independent residential special school for pupils aged between five and 19.
- Located on the outskirts of Cambridge, the school specialises in teaching children and young people who have autism spectrum disorder conditions.
- The residential accommodation is provided in three houses and one bungalow located on the school site.
- The residential provision was last inspected in February 2019.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. The purpose of the inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the national minimum standards that it was judged to not comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection team

Ashley Hinson, lead inspector

Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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