



Progress Monitoring Inspection Report

Streatham & Clapham High School

School's details

School	Streatham & Clapham High School			
DfE number	208/6311			
Registered charity number	306983			
Address	Streatham & Clapham High School 42 Abbotswood Road London SW16 1AW			
Telephone number	020 8677 8400			
Email address	senior@schs.gdst.net			
Head	Ms Cathy Elliott			
Proprietor	Girls' Day School Trust			
Age range	3 to 18			
Number of pupils on roll	866			
	EYFS	26	Prep	201
	Seniors	539	Sixth Form	100
Date of inspection	31 October 2023			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Streatham & Clapham High School is an independent day school. It is registered as a single-sex school for female pupils. Founded as Brixton High School in 1887, it is now governed by the Girls' Day School Trust, and a local board of governors advises the school.
- 1.2 The school comprises an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), prep school, senior school and sixth form. The school has 233 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) of whom three have an education, health and care plan. Eleven pupils speak English as an additional language. The school's previous inspections were a focused compliance and education quality inspection in October 2019 and an additional inspection in October 2022.

Purpose of the inspection

- 1.3 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 31 October 2022. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs) and the requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 1, paragraph 2A (relationships and sex education)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 9 (behaviour)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 16 (risk assessment)	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 – relationships and sex education (RSE) [ISSR Part 1, paragraph 2A]

- 2.1 The school meets the standard.
- 2.2 The school has a suitable RSE policy and related schemes of work which provide for pupils to learn effectively about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up at a level appropriate to their age and development.
- 2.3 The teaching of RSE has been allocated to a group of staff who have received sufficient subject-specific training to ensure that they have a good understanding of the subject matter. In discussions, pupils spoke of the wide range of age-appropriate topics covered and the non-judgemental atmosphere which enables them to ask questions during lessons, or anonymously through question boxes.

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

Safeguarding policy

- 2.4 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.5 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

- 2.6 The school meets the standard.
- 2.7 Implementation of all aspects of the school's safeguarding procedures is effective in providing appropriate support for the needs of pupils, including those of children in the EYFS.
- 2.8 Safeguarding procedures are implemented effectively to safeguard children at risk and those in particular need. Staff show effective understanding of their responsibilities, including with regard to child-on-child abuse. All behavioural issues and allegations of sexualised behaviour, racism or bullying, are treated as potential safeguarding concerns and addressed effectively.
- 2.9 Child protection records are held securely and with suitable confidentiality. This enables welfare considerations for individual pupils to be identified consistently and acted upon, and the school to be able to identify patterns of concern. Pupils are taught how to stay safe online and the school has appropriate controls of the use of technology.
- 2.10 Records show that the school now communicates and refers safeguarding concerns effectively, including to pertinent external agencies when appropriate. The safeguarding team seeks advice in line with thresholds for doing so identified in locally agreed procedures. Pupils reported in discussion that if any concerns arise, they can report them and felt confident they would receive a response and action would be taken where needed. Records of safeguarding, which are suitably thorough, confirm that any concerns are dealt with swiftly and appropriately. The school liaises appropriately with parents about any safeguarding concerns.
- 2.11 The training for those with specific safeguarding responsibilities, including the proprietor and local governors, is in line with local requirements and statutory advice and is up to date. Staff confirmed that they are trained regularly. There are comprehensive records of face to face and online training which confirm suitable courses have been completed. Staff demonstrate effective knowledge of

safeguarding procedures, including most recent changes to statutory guidance. They are aware of how to listen to children and report any concerns that they have.

- 2.12 Leaders and staff demonstrate appropriate awareness of the staff code of conduct, including the low-level concerns policy and safeguarding procedures, and are confident to use them. The code includes suitable guidance on the consumption of alcohol when on duty; maintaining appropriate relationships with pupils including with regard to avoiding inappropriate topics of conversation; and use of social media. They have a suitable knowledge of the thresholds for reporting issues or incidents. Suitable action is now taken by leaders in cases where the staff code of conduct has not been followed.
- 2.13 Suitable arrangements for handling allegations against staff or senior leaders, and potential misconduct, are included in safeguarding procedures. Since the previous inspection, the school has responded promptly and appropriately by seeking advice from the LADO and other external agencies when any safeguarding concerns are raised which meet the threshold for doing so, in accordance with locally agreed procedures. Allegations about members of staff are now handled in line with *Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)*, in particular, prompt referral is made to external agencies when concerns are raised, and sufficient consideration is given to making subsequent referral to the appropriate statutory bodies, including the Disclosure and Barring Service and Teaching Regulation Agency, if the school ceases to use a person's services.
- 2.14 The board lead responsible for safeguarding meets regularly with the designated safeguarding lead. The proprietor monitors safeguarding policies and procedures effectively and makes arrangements for an annual safeguarding audit. This is sufficient to ensure that all requirements of KCSIE are met.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – behaviour [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 9]

- 2.15 The school meets the standard.
- 2.16 The school has an appropriate written behaviour policy, which sets out the standards it expects of pupils. It incorporates a suitable system of rewards, and the sanctions to be adopted in the event of misbehaviour. The school's expectations are based on principles of respect and the consideration of the individual needs of each pupil. Suitable measures are in place to prevent drug or alcohol misuse and these are implemented effectively.
- 2.17 In discussions, pupils spoke of their respect for one another and for their teachers. Sanctions issued by pastoral staff are applied consistently and proportionately. This is confirmed by records of behaviour and sanctions. Staff and pupils agreed that there is some variation across academic departments in the issuing of minor sanctions. Records show that the prevalence of behaviour of a serious nature is low and that senior leaders take appropriate action to address any misbehaviour that is brought to their attention.

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

- 2.18 The school meets the standard.
- 2.19 The school has a suitable risk assessment policy, and staff conduct and implement appropriate risk assessments for the safety and welfare of pupils. Since the previous inspection, the school has ensured that appropriate action is taken to reduce any risks that are identified, in particular any transferable risk of harm with regard to safeguarding.

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

- 2.20 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]

- 2.21 The school meets the standard.
- 2.22 The school has ensured that the action plan required following the previous inspection has been implemented fully. The proprietor and senior leaders now demonstrate the good skills and knowledge required to fulfil their responsibilities effectively. They now ensure that the other standards are met consistently. Leaders and managers actively promote the wellbeing of pupils.

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 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 head, senior leaders and met with the proprietor and chair of governors. They talked with groups of pupils and members of staff. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.