

ST PIUS X PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Oak House, 200 Garstang Road, Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 8RD

07 NOVEMBER 2017

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SCHOOL

St Pius X Preparatory School is a Catholic co-educational day school for pupils between the ages of two and eleven years. The school was founded in 1955, and occupies a four-acre site in a residential area of Preston. It is divided into two sections; Oak House Nursery for pupils aged two to four years, and the main school, which educates pupils from five to eleven. The school is a charitable trust overseen by a board of governors.

At the time of the visit, there were 230 pupils: 140 boys and 90 girls. Of these 98 are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). There are 16 pupils who receive support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), of whom 3 have a statement of special educational needs or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan. There are 21 pupils who require and receive support for English as an additional language (EAL). The previous ISI integrated inspection was in February 2016; and there was an unannounced additional inspection in December 2016.

PURPOSE OF THE VISIT

This was an unannounced visit at the request of the Department for Education to determine the extent to which the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the additional inspection on 14 December 2016.

The focus of the visit was on:

- Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7(a) and (b); EYFS requirements 3.4 to 3.8]
- Leadership and management – [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34 (b) and (c)]

INSPECTION FINDINGS

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

The school meets the regulation and standards.

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. Arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils including children in the EYFS by means that pay due regard to current statutory guidance.

Safeguarding is correctly managed and procedures are regularly reviewed, including a formal local authority audit as part of an annual review by governors. All members of staff, including those with designated responsibility for safeguarding have appropriate levels of safeguarding training, attend regular update training and have a clear understanding of safeguarding and their responsibilities. Suitable arrangements are in place for the induction of new staff, which includes training in safeguarding.

The school liaises effectively with local agencies and when required, understands that prompt action must be taken if concerns are expressed about a child. The designated safeguarding lead and the chair of governors maintain appropriate and regular contact with the relevant children's services as required. Suitable procedures are in place to deal with allegations against members of staff, including referrals to the disclosure and barring service (DBS) and the national college for teaching and learning (NCTL) when necessary.

Pupils interviewed said they feel happy and safe in the school. They confirmed that there are adults within the school to whom they would turn if they had an anxiety or personal concern and they were confident that they would receive help.

Leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34]

The school meets the regulation.

The leadership and management ensure that the regulations and standards relating to safeguarding and associated regulations and standards for the welfare, health and safety of pupils including children in the EYFS are suitably and consistently met.

Since the previous inspection, the governors have ensured that an acting headteacher, appointed in September 2017, responds appropriately to safeguarding concerns, thus ensuring that the leadership and management fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the other standards are consistently met and they actively promote the well-being of the pupils and children in the EYFS. This newly appointed leadership has ensured that staff are now fully confident that any safeguarding or other concerns raised by them in good faith will be dealt with appropriately.

REGULATORY ACTION POINTS

The school meets all of the relevant requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework.