

On Track Education Centre Northants

Unit 6, Quarry Park Close, Moulton Park, Northampton, Northamptonshire NN3 6QB

Inspection date

29 August 2019

Overall outcome

The school is likely to meet the relevant independent school standards if the material changes relating to the school provision are implemented

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraph 7a, 7b

- The school's safeguarding and child protection policy has regard to current government guidance and is available to download from the school's website. There are clear procedures for staff to follow should they have a concern regarding the welfare of a pupil. Staff are well aware of these procedures and follow them appropriately.
- All staff have received relevant safeguarding training in such areas as spotting the signs of neglect, female genital mutilation and the dangers of gang culture, knife crime and 'county lines' drug trafficking.
- Safeguarding leaders have strong links with outside agencies, including the local authority multi-agency safeguarding hub, child and adolescent mental health service, drug and alcohol team and school nurse. Staff know to use these services should pupils and/or their families require extra help and support.
- A daily 'debrief' meeting enables staff to be kept up to date with any welfare, health and safety concerns that have arisen during the day.

Paragraph 11

- The school has an appropriate health and safety policy and procedures in place. For example, a recent health and safety audit highlighted that fire extinguishers should be hung on wall brackets. This issue was rectified promptly.
- The health and safety officer ensures that checks on, for example, water temperatures, emergency lighting and portable electrical appliances are undertaken within recommended time scales.

Paragraph 12

- The proprietor ensures compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

- The school's fire-safety policy is appropriate and up to date. A recent, independent fire risk assessment has been undertaken and identified issues have been acted upon. Frequent tests and checks on various items, including fire equipment, call points, smoke alarms and fire blankets, help to keep pupils' health and safety a priority.

Paragraph 16a, 16b

- The school's risk assessment policy is appropriate and up to date. Any identified risks are acted upon swiftly. For example, a new security fence and gates have recently been fitted to the perimeter, helping to ensure that visitors can be checked before they are allowed into the school building.
- The school is likely to continue to meet the independent school standards in this part if the school receives approval for the implementation of the material change.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

- The following bullet points relate to the proposed new unit for the proposed increase in pupil numbers from 32 to 48.

Paragraph 23(1), 23(1)(a), 23(1)(b), 23(1)(c), 28(1), 28(1)(b), 28(1)(d)

- The toilet facilities for boys and girls meet requirements. There is an adequate supply of cold water to the toilets and appropriate washing facilities. The hot water does not pose a risk of scalding. Changing facilities and showers are located at a nearby leisure centre, which can be accessed for physical education activities.

Paragraph 24(1), 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b)

- The proposed medical room has a washing facility and is close to a toilet. It is an appropriate room to accommodate the short-term needs of sick or injured pupils.

Paragraph 25

- The school's facilities and premises are maintained to a high standard, therefore ensuring that pupils' health, safety and welfare are not at risk. The school grounds are protected by a fence, therefore ensuring that the premises are secure.

Paragraph 26, 27, 27(a), 27(b)

- The lighting and acoustics in each proposed classroom are appropriate. External lighting to help ensure pupils' and visitors' safety at night is available.

Paragraph 28(1), 28(1)(a), 28(1)(c)

- Pupils have access to clearly marked drinking water.

Paragraph 29(1), 29(1)(a), 29(1)(b)

- There is an outdoor space for pupils to play and undertake physical education. There is also a local leisure centre which pupils will be able to access.
- The school is likely to continue to meet the independent school standards in this part if the school receives approval for the implementation of the material change.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c)

- The proprietor has ensured that the experienced headteacher and centre manager demonstrate the skills and knowledge appropriate to their roles, with clear, defined roles and responsibilities for the two senior leaders responsible for the quality of education, behaviour, safeguarding and pastoral care. Existing practice at the school will be replicated in the proposed new premises, with new staff adopting the school's current policies, routines and procedures.
- The proprietor monitors the work of the school closely through frequent visits and the scrutiny of reports provided by the senior leaders. These detailed reports include relevant information on, for example, pupils' progress, attendance, behaviour and any potential or ongoing safeguarding concerns.
- The proprietor and senior leaders ensure that the school promotes pupils' well-being. There are frequent opportunities for pupils to learn how to keep themselves safe and become responsible citizens through the personal, social, health and economic education curriculum. All staff have undertaken appropriate safeguarding training and are clear regarding the procedures to follow should they have a concern regarding a pupil's welfare.
- The school is likely to continue to meet the independent school standards in this part if the school receives approval for the implementation of the material change.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school is likely to meet the requirements of the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements that are relevant to the material change.

School details

Unique reference number	136227
DfE registration number	928/6073
Inspection number	10108898

This inspection was carried out under section 162(4) of the Education Act 2002, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards relevant to the material change that the school has applied to make.

Type of school	Other independent special school
School status	Independent school
Proprietor	On Track Education Services Ltd
Chair	Penny Harris and Jane Cox
Headteacher	Pete Davies
Centre manager	Sally O'Connor
Annual fees (day pupils)	£26,068 - £59,000
Telephone number	01604 645934
Website	www.ontrackededucationservices.co.uk
Email address	pdavies@ontrackededucation.com
Date of previous standard inspection	14–16 November 2017

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Number of pupils on the school roll	32	48	48

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	32	48
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	32	48
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	26	48
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	32	48

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	24	31
Number of part-time teaching staff	2	2

Information about this school

- On Track Northampton is situated in converted industrial premises on Moulton Park trading estate in the north of Northampton.
- The school is currently registered to admit 32 pupils aged 11 to 19 years who have social, emotional, behavioural and mental health difficulties. Pupils are placed at the school following the breakdown of their previous placements in mainstream schools. There are currently 32 pupils on the school roll.
- A large number of pupils are in the care of the local authority, with a smaller number of pupils looked after by other local authorities.
- On Track aim to 'restore young people's self-confidence, self-esteem, self-control and self-motivation through a flexible, personalised, needs-led programme with unconditional care, nurture and support.'
- The previous standard inspection of the school was in November 2017, when it was judged to be good.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out under section 162(4) of the Education Act 2002, to check the school's compliance with the independent school standards relevant to the school's application to make material changes to its provision. These changes are to increase the school's capacity from 32 to 48 pupils and to introduce new premises for this increase in the number of pupils on roll.
- The registration authority for independent schools commissioned the inspector to inspect the quality and suitability of the new premises and its provision for the welfare, health and safety of all pupils.
- The inspector met with the headteacher, school manager, health and safety officer, deputy safeguarding lead, a class tutor and a director from On Track Education Services. He scrutinised a range of documents, including those relating to health and safety, risk assessment and safeguarding.

Inspection team

Peter Stonier, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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M1 2WD

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