

The Fitzroy Academy

Cruckton, Shrewsbury SY5 8PR

Inspection date

23 August 2022

Overall outcome

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

Residential provision outcome

The school is likely to meet the relevant national minimum standards if the material change relating to the school provision is implemented

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b) and 32(1)(c) [Part 6, Provision of information]

- Leaders have ensured that the school's current safeguarding policy is available on the website. Leaders have a draft policy in place that reflects the most current government guidance, ready for implementation in September 2022. Leaders have planned training for staff and governors that reflects this guidance.
- Leaders plan to work closely across the residential provision and school to ensure that safeguarding procedures are clear and consistent for all staff. Current staff have been trained in what they should do if they have any concerns about pupils' welfare and safety.
- These standards are likely to be met.

Paragraphs 8, 8(a) and 8(b)

- Rooms in the residential provision are well presented. Current residential staff are well trained in and understand their responsibilities regarding safeguarding and promoting the welfare of boarders. Leaders have clear safeguarding systems in place in the residential provision that link closely with the school's systems. Leaders plan to ensure that all relevant information is shared between the school staff and residential staff.
- These standards are likely to be met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- Leaders have a secure understanding of the independent school standards. They have continued to develop and enhance the school environment, through developing the outdoor areas and learning spaces since the pre-registration inspection. School leaders have worked closely with leaders from the residential provision to ensure that systems are in place to safeguard pupils in their care. Leaders are developing a culture where safeguarding is prioritised and pupils' welfare will be promoted across the school.

The national minimum standards that were assessed during this inspection

- Leaders demonstrate a sound understanding of the requirements for registration. They are able to present evidence that indicates that the national minimum standards for residential special schools are likely to be met.
- Leaders have a clear and aspirational vision for the school and residential provision. They are clear about how they will work together to share information and develop plans, so that children receive a consistent experience in both environments.
- Staffing arrangements are clear. Leaders have appointed a manager for the residential provision. This manager has applied to register with Ofsted. Staff have been recruited following safer recruitment checks. Although there is not yet a full staff team in place, there are sufficient numbers of staff for the three children initially proposed to live at the home.
- The residential provision is ready, suitably furnished and feels homely. There is good-quality furniture set up in readiness for children to move in. Leaders have provided a blank canvas for children to personalise their bedrooms, and have plans which will enable children to have input into the personalisation of their individual home.
- There is a satisfactory health and safety policy in place. Leaders have considered risks and have ensured that there are suitable measures in place to safeguard children; for example, by having window restrictors, making sure that cleaning materials are locked away and putting procedures in place to check regularly that the environment remains safe.
- Fire safety arrangements are established. Assessments have been undertaken. There are systems in place to check the fire systems regularly and to undertake fire evacuation practices.
- Policies and procedures are in place and are specific to the provision. Leaders have considered the differences between the school and residential provision and have adapted documentation accordingly. As a result, those staff who would be working at the home have clear guidance regarding their responsibilities, accountability and duty to follow those procedures. This includes who to report safeguarding concerns to within the organisation and externally.

Compliance with regulatory requirements and national minimum standards for residential special schools

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

School details

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Unique reference number | 148831 |
| Social care unique reference number | 2677057 |
| DfE registration number | 893/6044 |
| Inspection number | 10248609 |

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 compliance with the independent school standards relevant to the material change that the school has applied to make.

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 | Independent school |
| School status | Independent residential special school |
| Proprietor | Reflexion Care Group Ltd |
| Chair | Amanda Clarke |
| Headteacher | Mrs Kim McConnell |
| Annual fees (day pupils) | £58,500 to £70,200 |
| Annual fees (boarders) | £205,400 to £241,800 |
| Telephone number | 01939 210040 |
| Website | https://www.reflexionseducation.org.uk/the-fitzyroy-academy/ |
| Email address | kim.mcconnell@newreflexions.co.uk |
| Date of previous standard inspection | Not previously inspected |

Pupils

| | School's current position | School's proposal | Inspector's recommendation |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Age range of pupils | Not applicable | 7 to 18 | 7 to 18 |
| Number of pupils on the school roll | Not applicable | 40 | 40 |

Pupils

| | School's current position | School's proposal |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gender of pupils | Not applicable | Mixed |
| Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age | Not applicable | 40 |
| Number of part-time pupils | Not applicable | 0 |
| Number of boarders on roll | Not applicable | 14 |
| Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities | Not applicable | Up to 40 |
| Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan | Not applicable | Up to 40 |
| Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan | Not applicable | Up to 40 |

Staff

| | School's current position | School's proposal |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff | 7 | 7 |
| Number of part-time teaching staff | 0 | 0 |
| Number of staff in the welfare provision | 11 | 38 |

Information about this school

- The school is located on a site that was a former independent school for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The school intends to open as an independent residential special school.
- Some pupils will have the option to attend as day pupils.
- The school does not intend to use alternative provision.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out at the request of the Department for Education to determine whether the school is likely to meet the relevant independent school standards and the national minimum standards for residential special schools if the proposed material change is granted.
- The inspection focused on how pupils will be safeguarded in the school and in the residential provision. Inspectors checked to see whether the relevant independent school standards and national minimum standards are likely to be met.
- Inspectors held meetings with a member of the proprietorial body, teaching staff, the human resources manager and the boarding provision service manager.
- Inspectors toured the school and the boarding provision.
- Inspectors scrutinised a range of documents, including the single central record and safeguarding policies and procedures.

Inspection team

Eve Morris, lead inspector

Debbie Bond

Her Majesty's Inspector

Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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