

Barnet Hill Academy

10a Montagu Road, Hendon, London NW4 3ES

Inspection date

14 March 2023

Overall outcome

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

Main inspection findings

Part 1. Quality of education provided

Paragraph 3, 3(a)

- At the time of the previous inspection, leaders were in the early stages of reviewing the school's curriculum. In some subjects, leaders had not identified precisely the subject-specific knowledge that they intended pupils to learn. Leaders had not thought carefully about the sequencing of lessons to enable pupils to build up their learning over time. In some subjects, teachers did not routinely check how securely pupils were remembering subject-specific knowledge.
- Since the previous inspection, leaders have developed their curriculum thinking. They have clear intentions for how each subject should be taught. They use structured plans that set out the order in which pupils should learn key content.
- Leaders have raised expectations for teachers to routinely check pupils' recall of prior learning. Leaders have identified the ambitious endpoints that they expect pupils to achieve at the end of each unit of study. It is evident from pupils' work across a range of subjects that teachers have started to follow leaders' expectations. Pupils are taught the curriculum in the way that leaders intend, with regular opportunities to reinforce key facts before moving on to more demanding concepts.
- Leaders have identified staff training needs. Leaders have organised training, invested in resources and subscribed to academic associations to help improve teachers' subject knowledge across the primary curriculum. For example, all staff have been trained in the school's chosen scheme for the teaching of phonics. Subject leaders have started working with external partners to support their work.
- The school now meets the previously unmet requirements in this part.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraph 15

- The previous inspection found that leaders' record-keeping was not routinely well organised. Leaders had not ensured that the admissions record met requirements. Leaders rectified omissions during the previous inspection.

- Since the previous inspection, leaders have invested in a new recording system. They use this system to record all the required information in the admissions register, including the destinations of pupils who leave the school other than at the usual times. Leaders know and follow required procedures before removing a pupil from the school roll and communicate with the local authority as needed.
- The school now meets the previously unmet requirements in this part.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- At the time of the previous inspection, inspectors found that the principal, who is also the proprietor, did not monitor the effectiveness of their work rigorously to maintain the independent school standards. Several independent school standards were not met.
- Since the previous inspection, the proprietor has reviewed and restructured leadership responsibilities. The governing body identified gaps in their areas of expertise and recruited new members accordingly. The proprietor and new chair of the governing body have organised training for leaders and staff so that all have a greater awareness of the requirements of the independent school standards. Leaders have improved accountability for the meeting of the standards. The proprietor has overseen the work needed to ensure that the independent school standards relating to the curriculum in part 1 and record-keeping in part 3 are now met.
- The school now meets the previously unmet requirements in this part.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school meets the requirements of the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements that were checked during this inspection. This included the standards and requirements that the school was judged to not comply with at the previous inspection. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

The school now meets the following independent school standards

Part 1. Quality of education provided

- 3 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that the teaching at the school –
 - 3(a) enables pupils to acquire new knowledge and make good progress according to their ability so that they increase their understanding and develop their skills in the subjects taught.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- 15 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools.

- 34(1) The standard about the quality of leadership and management is met if the proprietor ensures that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school -
 - 34(1)(a) demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently
 - 34(1)(b) fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently.

School details

Unique reference number	131261
DfE registration number	302/6119
Inspection number	10281581

This inspection was carried out under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's suitability for continued registration as an independent school.

Type of school	Other independent school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	3 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	156
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Alimuddin Shaikh
Headteacher	Alimuddin Shaikh
Annual fees (day pupils)	£4,950
Telephone number	020 3411 2660
Website	www.BarnethHillAcademy.org.uk
Email address	info@barnethillacademy.org.uk
Dates of previous standard inspection	28 to 30 June 2022

Information about this school

- Since the previous inspection, a new assistant headteacher has been appointed. There is a new chair of governors.
- The last standard inspection took place in June 2022.
- The school is a Muslim primary school.
- Leaders do not use alternative provision.

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 independent school standards and other requirements that it was judged to not comply with at its previous inspection.
- This inspection was conducted without notice. Inspection activities focused on the independent school standards in parts 1, 3 and 8 found to be unmet at the last standard inspection. The inspector considered information about safeguarding arrangements.
- The inspector met with the principal, who is also the proprietor of the school, and the chair of the governing body. The inspector held discussions with school leaders, teachers and pupils, visited lessons accompanied by the assistant headteacher and looked at pupils' work. The inspector also met with the leader with responsibility for safeguarding.
- The inspector looked at documents and email correspondence relevant to the independent school standards being considered.

Inspection team

Amanda Carter-Fraser, lead inspector

His Majesty's Inspector

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