

Azbuka Russian–English Bilingual School

Studland Hall, Studland Street, Hammersmith W6 0JS

Inspection dates

20 September 2018

Overall outcome

The school does not meet the independent school standards relevant to the material change. The material change has already been implemented

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b) and 32(1), 32(1)(c)

- This material change inspection considered the arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school. The inspection found the culture of safeguarding, as confirmed at the school's previous inspection in November 2017, to be strong. Staff work effectively to keep pupils as safe as possible.
- However, although the school's safeguarding policy is available online, it is out of date. It does not pay regard to the latest statutory guidance ('Keeping children safe in education', September 2018). Also, leaders with responsibility for safeguarding have not kept their training up to date. Although these oversights do not mean pupils are unsafe, leaders have failed to pay adequate attention to detail in ensuring compliance with the latest statutory guidance.
- As a result, paragraph 7(b) is not met.

Paragraphs 11 and 12

- Leaders have ensured that their suitable health and policy is implemented well.
- The fire safety systems in the building meet all the requirements of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Act 2005. Fire safety equipment is new, as are the alarm and smoke detection systems. However, leaders have not put in place a suitable system for logging the required checks, such as checks on the fire alarm and emergency lighting systems. As a result, paragraph 12 is not met.

Paragraph 16, 16(a) and 16(b)

- Leaders have ensured that risk assessments, including of the premises and use of the local park for outdoor play and physical education, are robust and effective in minimising risks to pupils. However, leaders have not written a risk assessment policy as per the requirements. As a result, paragraph 16(a) is not met.
- Leaders have not ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are met, as identified in the annex to this report.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

All paragraphs

- The new premises have been refurbished to a high standard. They are clean, secure and well maintained. They include three classrooms, a school hall and a nursery space.
- There are new, suitable toilets for pupils, with appropriate washing facilities. However, the hot running water was not operational during the inspection because the boilers were switched off. It is therefore not known if the hot water supply presents a scalding risk. As a result, the standards related to the provision of hot and cold running water and to water presenting a scalding risk are not met.
- The school has no outdoor space. However, suitable arrangements are in place to take pupils to the local park on a daily basis for play, and on a weekly basis for physical education.
- The standards related to lighting, acoustics and drinking water are all met.
- A kitchen area for staff has been allocated as the school's medical room. It does not meet the requirements as it has not been suitably adapted to meet the needs of sick and injured pupils. The relevant standards are therefore not met.
- Leaders have not ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are met, as identified in the annex to this report.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- Leaders have relocated to appropriate, suitably refurbished premises in a short space of time. However, there has been a lack of attention to detail in ensuring that all the independent school standards are fully understood and met.
- As some of the independent school standards relevant to this material change are not met, including those in this part, the material change is not recommended.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school does not 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, as set out in the annex of this report.

School details

Unique reference number	143048
DfE registration number	318/6007
Inspection number	10077620

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.

Type of school	Primary day school
School status	Independent school
Proprietor	The Azbuka Foundation
Chair	Maria Gavrilova
Headteacher	Maria Gavrilova
Annual fees (day pupils)	£9,300
Telephone number	020 8392 2286
Website	www.azbukafoundation.org
Email address	office@azbukafoundation.org
Date of previous standard inspection	21–23 November 2017

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	2 to 11	No change	Not applicable
Number of pupils on the school roll	45/100	Up to 70	The material change is not recommended at this time. However, the building is likely to accommodate a maximum of 70 pupils.

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Gender of pupils	Mixed	No change
Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	17	Up to 25
Number of part-time pupils	15	Up to 45
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	None	Up to 70
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	None	Not applicable
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	None	Not applicable

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	8	No change
Number of part-time teaching staff	4	7
Number of staff in the welfare provision	1	No change

Information about this school

- The Azbuka Russian–English Bilingual School is a co-educational school for pupils aged five to 11; it is non-selective up to Year 3 and selective from Year 4 upwards. It is part of the Azbuka Foundation, which also operates a Russian nursery school and a Saturday complementary school.

- The school relocated during the summer break to new premises, which opened in September 2018. The new premises comprise a newly refurbished first floor of a commercial building in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.
- The school offers a structured bilingual education that aims to meet 'the educational, cultural, linguistic and social needs of Russian and English bilingual and bicultural children and families living in London'.
- The school's most recent inspection was its first full standard inspection, in November 2017.

Information about this inspection

- The inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) to consider the school's application for a material change to its registration. The school has relocated to Studland Hall, Studland Street, Hammersmith W6 0JS.
- The DfE requested that the inspector consider whether particular independent school standards contained within Parts 3, 5 and 8 are met, as the material change has already been implemented.
- The inspector met with the headteacher (who is also the chair of the proprietorial body). He toured the premises and reviewed relevant documentation in relation to health and safety, fire safety, risk assessment and safeguarding.
- The inspection took into account the 10 recent responses to Ofsted's online survey (Parent View).

Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

Annex. Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school does not meet the following independent school standards

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- 7 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that–
 - 7(b) arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- 12 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- 16 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that–
 - 16(a) the welfare of pupils at the school is safeguarded and promoted by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written risk assessment policy.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

- 24(1) The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that suitable accommodation is provided in order to cater for the medical and therapy needs of pupils, including–
 - 24(1)(a) accommodation for the medical examination and treatment of pupils
 - 24(1)(b) accommodation for the short term care of sick and injured pupils, which includes a washing facility and is near to a toilet facility.
- 28(1) The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that–
 - 28(1)(b) toilets and urinals have an adequate supply of cold water and washing facilities have an adequate supply of hot and cold water
 - 28(1)(d) the temperature of hot water at the point of use does not pose a scalding risk to users.

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; and
- 34(1)(c) actively promote the well-being of pupils.

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