

Hope House School

Transforming the lives of children living on the Autistic Spectrum

21st April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find a copy of the Ofsted monitoring inspection report which took place on Tuesday 2nd March 2021, following a visit by Her Majesty's Inspector, Peter Stonier.

You will notice the report mentions the previous report from January 2020 and provides an update on how far the school has addressed them, whilst giving some further recommendations which have been followed up in recent weeks including:

- Ensuring the safeguarding policy is aligned to the up-to-date guidance issued by the secretary of state. This is now on the school website and staff have received appropriate safeguarding training.
- The new safeguarding system (CPOMS) is now in place, all staff have received training to use the system, which is now being monitored by leaders.
- The trustees have ratified the Health and Safety policy, which is available on the school website. In addition, they have commissioned an external company (Arion), to support the school to further improve systems and procedures to make sure we continue to meet this standard.
- All areas of school now have the required fire extinguishers in place. All necessary checks have been carried out by an external company – Westgate Fire Services – (see enclosed letter of confirmation).
- All staff have been trained on the updated risk assessment policy, so they can complete accurate risk assessments for pupils in their own learning groups, to safeguard pupils' welfare.
- Leaders have received the appropriate safer recruitment training. All the necessary checks are now made on adults before they commence their employment. The single central record meets statutory requirements.
- Toilet and washing facilities are now compliant with the independent school standards, including the facility for sick and injured pupils. The premises are maintained to an appropriate standard.
- All required policies are now available and on the school website following a systematic review.
- The review of the progress made, linked to the school action plan, continues to be monitored and supported by an external consultant.

On page 8 you will see the independent school standards which were not met at the time of this inspection. However, you will note the school is now compliant with the fire regulations regulatory reform (Fire Safety) 2005. Please see letter from our fire safety provider to confirm this.

The trustees have prepared the relevant documentation for local authorities linked to the funding of pupils at Hope House School.

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Leaders and proprietors now have in depth knowledge of the independent school standards with regular checking they are being consistently met.

Staff have accessed continual professional development relevant to their roles. There has been a systematic refresh of educational resources and equipment to strengthen the delivery of the curriculum as an ongoing process. Along with a programme of improvements and investment to the site including the installation of our new playground equipment over the Easter holidays, which will be available for pupil use in the coming weeks.

On behalf of the trustees and school staff please accept our thanks for your continued support.

Brian Jones
Chair of Trustees

