



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Additional Inspection Report

Buttercup Primary School

May 2023

School's details

School	Buttercup Primary School			
DfE number	211/6003			
Address	Buttercup Primary School 181 Cannon Street Road London E1 2LX			
Telephone number	02037 597408			
Email address	info@buttercupprimary.co.uk			
Headteacher	Mrs Rena Begum			
Proprietor	Mrs Rena Begum			
Age range	3 to 11			
Number of pupils on roll	154			
	EYFS	39	Juniors	115
Date of inspection	16 May 2023			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Buttercup Primary School is a co-educational Islamic day school in east London. The school opened in 2012 and includes an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) setting. It is overseen by a sole proprietor who is also the headteacher. The proprietor is supported by a board of three advisors. The school has 14 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), none of whom has an education, health and care plan. All the pupils speak English as an additional language (EAL). The school's previous inspection, in November 2021, was a regulatory compliance inspection.

Purpose of the inspection

- 1.2 This was an unannounced additional inspection at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) which focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs) and the requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 3, paragraphs 9 (behaviour) and 10 (bullying)	Met
Part 3, paragraphs 11 (health and safety) and 16 (risk assessment)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 13 (first aid)	Met
Part 4, paragraphs 18 to 21 (suitability of staff, supply staff and the proprietor)	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	Met
Part 7, paragraph 33 (complaints)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management)	Met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 7]

Safeguarding policy

- 2.1 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.2 The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.

Safeguarding implementation

- 2.3 The school meets the standard.
- 2.4 The school's safeguarding and supporting policies and procedures are implemented effectively to protect pupils, including children in the EYFS. Staff receive appropriate induction training upon taking up appointment. All staff, including the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and two deputies, are trained at a level appropriate to their responsibilities. Staff have a good understanding of their role in implementing the school's safeguarding arrangements since safeguarding is included in their weekly staff meetings. They demonstrate a clear awareness of the need to report promptly all concerns about pupils to the DSL. Staff know what to do if they have either a low level or more serious concern about another adult's conduct and have a clear understanding of the need to adhere to the staff code of conduct themselves. Pupils report that they feel safe in school and have adults they trust to talk to about any concerns. They are confident that they will be listened to and suitable action taken. This is confirmed by records of safeguarding incidents.
- 2.5 Confidential records seen by inspectors confirm that concerns about pupils are readily brought to the DSL's attention. They also show that the school initiates contact with the relevant safeguarding agency or the police promptly. Records also confirm that the school liaises effectively with children's services to support children's ongoing needs, including with regard to any additional vulnerabilities such as SEND and/or EAL. They clearly indicate that when local safeguarding agencies are not readily contactable, the school follows reporting procedures appropriately and with sufficient diligence to ensure that safeguarding is not compromised. The proprietor is trained to DSL level and receives additional guidance and support in safeguarding matters from suitably experienced advisors. This system provides for suitable review of safeguarding procedures and ensures that effective oversight is maintained. Specific recruitment procedures for staff required by *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE) 2022 are adhered to. Pupils are made aware of the need for safe use of the internet through events such as Safer Internet Week. The school also advises parents on how to ensure home devices are safe.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – behaviour and bullying [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 9 and 10]

- 2.6 The school meets the standards.
- 2.7 The school has a suitable policy setting out clear expectations for good behaviour; this includes the use of appropriate sanctions and rewards. In discussions, both staff and older pupils stated their conviction that the ethos of the school should guide them in correct behaviour and both groups asserted that behaviour in school is generally good. This is confirmed by behaviour records and observation. The school's approach to bullying is guided by an appropriate anti-bullying policy, based on the ethos of being a 'telling and listening' school. Staff receive regular training to guide their response to any behavioural or bullying incidents. Pupils with additional vulnerabilities, including any

relating to SEND or EAL, are discussed and, when necessary, risk assessed in staff meetings to allow relevant support to be provided. The school has established a lunchtime club to provide support from volunteer pupils and staff to any pupils who may be experiencing personal or social difficulties. Pupils develop their awareness of the values which help to prevent bullying in personal, social and health education and Islamic studies lessons, as well as in assemblies. They report that other than isolated incidents of unkindness or anger, which are dealt with appropriately, bullying does not take place. The school maintains suitable records of behaviour and bullying and checks these for any patterns.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – health and safety and risk assessment [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 11 and 16]

- 2.8 The school meets the standards.
- 2.9 The school has a suitable policy which complies with health and safety legislation and guidance, updated annually. The building and services are maintained in good order, as confirmed by a tour of the school. Records confirm that equipment is serviced at appropriate intervals by external contractors. Staff have a good understanding of safe working practice, including the effective use of risk assessment. The school has a robust approach to the identification and management of risk so that risk assessments, for the buildings, riskier activities and external visits, are implemented effectively. These are thorough, follow a common pattern and are monitored regularly. Suitable assessments of risk are also made for pupils with specific vulnerabilities.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – first aid [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 13]

- 2.10 The school meets the standard.
- 2.11 The school has suitable arrangements for the care of pupils who are unwell or injured. These are guided by policies for first aid, supporting pupils with medical conditions and the administration of medicines. There are sufficient numbers of staff trained to administer first aid, including paediatric trained first aiders. Pupils report that each classroom has a first aid kit and that they are cared for well should they fall ill or hurt themselves. Records confirm that procedures are implemented appropriately.

Suitability of staff, supply staff and the proprietor [ISSR Part 4, paragraphs 18 – 21]

- 2.12 The school meets the standards.
- 2.13 The school carries out all the required checks on staff prior to their starting work and suitable checks have been undertaken on the proprietor. These are accurately recorded on the single central register of appointments and confirmed in well-organised staff files. A member of the advisory board checks recruitment arrangements regularly.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c)]

- 2.14 The school meets the requirements for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents. Particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are published on the school's website.

Manner in which complaints are handled [ISSR Part 7, paragraph 33]

- 2.15 The school meets the standard.

- 2.16 The school has a suitable complaints procedure which is made available to parents on its website. This makes provision for complaints to be initially investigated and resolved informally. A suitable complaints record shows that, since the previous inspection, all concerns have been effectively addressed and concluded at this stage. Should it be necessary, there is recourse to a formal stage which may include a panel comprised of three people not involved in the complaint, at least one of whom is independent of the leadership and management of the school. The complaints record indicates the action taken by the school in resolving concerns.

Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34]

- 2.17 The school meets the standard.
- 2.18 The proprietor regularly consults a small board of advisors with relevant professional expertise for oversight and guidance in relation to matters of compliance and school improvement. Consequently, procedures to ensure the implementation and monitoring of policies are effective. Leadership and management have the good skills and knowledge required to fulfil their responsibilities effectively and actively promote the wellbeing of pupils.

3. Regulatory action points

- 3.1 For the regulations which were the focus of this inspection, the school meets all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework, and no further action is required as a result of this inspection.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspectors held discussions with the head, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the proprietor and two members of the advisory board. They visited different areas of the school and talked with groups of pupils. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.

Inspectors

Mrs Jan Preece

Reporting inspector

Mrs Louise Robinson

Assistant reporting inspector