

Frewen College

Independent school progress monitoring inspection report

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| DfE registration number | 845/6002 |
| Unique Reference Number (URN) | 114635 |
| URN for social care | SC049345 |
| Inspection number | 361189 |
| Inspection dates | 29 September 2010 |
| Reporting inspector | Jill Bainton |

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Purpose and scope of the inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005.

The inspection was conducted at the request of the Registration Authority for independent schools in order to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan following the previous inspection.

Information about the school

Frewen College is a day and residential special school administered through the Frewen Educational Trust Ltd. It is registered with the Department for Education for up to 144 pupils aged five to 17 who have specific learning difficulties and/or difficulties related to Asperger's syndrome. It is also a registered member of the Council for the Registration of Schools Teaching Dyslexic Pupils. Approximately a quarter of the pupils are privately funded, and the rest funded by their local authority or the Ministry of Defence. At the time of the inspection 17 local authorities had pupils placed at the school. The large majority of pupils have statements of special educational needs. The school, which is situated in a rural location in East Sussex on a 60 acre site, opened in 1957. The junior department is located nearby in a converted listed building. This was registered in 1998 for up to 26 pupils. In September 2004 the school began to admit girls. There are currently 97 pupils on roll, of whom 24 are girls. The school is registered for 89 boarders and residential accommodation is on the site.

Context of the inspection

The school had a combined education and social care inspection in March 2009 when a number of regulations and national minimum standards for boarding were not met. The school submitted an action plan to remedy the shortfalls, which was evaluated as satisfactory subject to inspection. This is the first progress monitoring visit to evaluate the progress the school has made in addressing the action plan.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Following the inspection of March 2009 the school was required to ensure that all staff working in the residential section of the school had been checked prior to appointment for their suitability to work with children. This has now been done and all the required information is held on the single central register of staff appointments. The school was required to improve the ventilation in a specialist teaching room. This has been achieved through the installation of new air extraction equipment. There were a small number of national minimum boarding standards that were not met. These are now met in full.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school has made good progress in implementing its action plan. It now meets all the regulations and relevant national minimum standards.

School details

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| School status | Independent | | |
| Type of school | Special | | |
| Date school opened | 1957 | | |
| Age range of pupils | 5–17 years | | |
| Gender of pupils | Mixed | | |
| Number on roll (full-time pupils) | Boys: 73 | Girls: 24 | Total: 97 |
| Number of boarders | Boys: 34 | Girls: 7 | Total: 41 |
| Number of pupils with a statement of special educational needs | Boys: 55 | Girls: 15 | Total: 70 |
| Number of pupils who are looked after | Boys: 1 | Girls: 1 | Total: 2 |
| Annual fees (day pupils) | £16,200 - £21,165 | | |
| Annual fees (boarders) | £23,376 - £29,384 | | |
| Address of school | Northiam Rye East Sussex TN31 6NL | | |
| Telephone number | 01797 252494 | | |
| Email address | office@frewencollege.co.uk | | |
| Headteacher | Linda Smith | | |
| Proprietor | Frewen Educational Trust Ltd | | |