

Rikkyo School in England

The Rikkyo School in England, Guildford Road, Rudgwick, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 3BE

Inspection date

15 November 2023

Context of the inspection

This unannounced monitoring inspection took place to determine the progress made by the school in implementing its action plan to address the requirements and recommendations set at the previous inspection.

This inspection was carried out at the same time as an unannounced progress monitoring inspection of the school.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Leaders have ensured that all the requirements and recommendations made at the previous inspection have been met.

Students in the school are happy and speak warmly of the relationships and support offered by staff and peers. Students talk confidently of their time at the school and are particularly positive about the time they spend with their friends.

Governors have increased and improved the effectiveness of their oversight of the boarding provision. They carry out regular visits where they meet with students and staff. This is to ensure that students are safe and happy and that management of the provision continues to be effective. These visits are clearly documented, and actions identified are shared with leaders.

Leaders have received relevant training to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills needed to safeguard students well. When concerns arise, these are dealt with quickly, including working in partnership with other agencies, such as social care and the local authority designated officer. Records of these concerns and the actions taken are clear and concise.

Staff ensure that medication is stored and managed safely. There has been effective communication with parents regarding medication processes to ensure that all medication is correctly labelled and that administration records are clear and accurate. Where appropriate, students are supported to self-administer medication. When students are unwell, staff liaise with their families, keeping them up to date with relevant information.

Clear vetting processes that follow safer recruitment principles are carried out when new staff are appointed to work at the school. All new staff have clear job descriptions that support them to understand their roles.

Leaders have established new processes that enable staff to have regular reviews of their boarding practices. In addition, leaders meet weekly with their teams to discuss the boarding provision, operational issues and to share any other relevant information. This is enhanced by dual-language communication memos shared with all staff.

National minimum standards

The school has made good progress and now meets all the national minimum standards for boarding schools.

Inspection team

Jay Shekleton

Social Care Inspector

Information about this school

Rikkyo School in England first established in 1972 and is situated on the West Sussex/Surrey border, close to the village of Rudgwick. It is an independent co-educational school acknowledged by the Ministry of Education in Japan. All the boarding accommodation is located in the school grounds. At the time of the inspection, 188 students were boarding at the school. The boarding provision was last inspected in April 2023.

School details

Unique reference number	126132
Social care unique reference number	SC014681
DfE registration number	938 6188

This inspection was carried out under the Children Act 1989, as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000, having regard to the national minimum standards for boarding schools.

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.

Type of school	Boarding school
Number of boarders on roll	188
Gender of boarders	Mixed
Age range of boarders	11 to 18
Headteacher	Dr Toru Okano
Date of previous boarding inspection	25 April 2023
Telephone number	01403 822107
Email address	toruokano@rikkyo.uk

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