

Skegness Grammar School

1 October 2020

Skegness Grammar School, Vernon Road, Skegness, Lincolnshire PE25 2QS

Overall outcome **Boarding provision**

The school meets all of the national minimum standards that were checked during this inspection.

Main inspection findings

The overall experiences and progress of children

An unannounced visit was carried out after concerns were raised to Ofsted about the boarding provision. The concerns were raised anonymously. The complainant was concerned that the reopening of the boarding provision, following a period of closure, had not been done safely. The complainant raised concerns about management and staffing arrangements, the physical environment and the boarding provision's adherence to policies and procedures.

The boarding provision at Skegness Grammar School was last inspected on 14 to 16 May 2019 and was judged as good in all areas. The school was found to have met all the national minimum standards for boarding schools.

Following the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, there had been uncertainty about whether boarding would continue to be offered, and alternative options were being explored. Decisions about the future of the boarding provision have not yet been made. However, a decision has been made to continue to offer boarding to a small number of existing boarders.

The boarding house is comfortable and well maintained. Due to the very low number of boarders, only part of the boarding house is being used. The boarding provision is large and mainly unoccupied, but the physical environment meets young people's needs well.

The boarders' main evening meal is provided by the school and transported to the boarding house. This is not an ideal situation, given the distance between the school and the boarding provision, but appropriate procedures are in place to manage this. Other meals, snacks and refreshments are available on site.

Young people are happy with the boarding provision. They receive good support from staff. The staff spend time with young people and promote their educational progress as well as providing a range of extra-curricular activities. New staff have been recruited to complement the boarding staff team, but most staff are familiar to the young people. Young people are dedicated to their studies. The boarding environment supports this.

How well children are helped and protected

Staff understand how to keep young people safe. Staff are familiar with safeguarding procedures and know what to do if they are concerned about a young person.

There are no obvious health and safety concerns. A recommendation made at the last inspection regarding the storage of hazardous items and substances has been addressed. Fire evacuation drills are taking place as appropriate.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers

The director of boarding left their post earlier this year. The school is in the process of appointing a new director of boarding. However, the school principal maintains an oversight of the boarding provision. In general, interim management arrangements are suitable and effective.

School details

Unique reference number	138757
Social care unique reference number	SC060655
DfE registration number	
Inspection number	10167017

The inspection of boarding provision 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.

Type of school	Boarding school
School status	Independent boarding school
Age range of pupils	11 to 18
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	675
Number of boarders on roll	5
Headteacher	Jude Hunton
Head of boarding/residential provision	Post vacant
Telephone number	01754 610000
Website	www.skegnessgrammar.co.uk
Email address	enquiries@skegnessgrammar.co.uk
Date of previous boarding inspection	14 to 16 May 2019

Information about this school

- Skegness Grammar School is a co-educational, selective, foundation day and boarding school based in the town of Skegness.
- The school caters for boys and girls aged 11 to 18 years and there are currently 675 pupils on roll. Five pupils are boarders. The boarding community caters for boarders from different cultures and ethnicities.
- The boarding house is located on the edge of the market town of Wainfleet.

Inspection team

Corrinne Barker, lead inspector	Social Care Regulatory Inspector
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