



Department
for Education

Bishopsgate House

Feethams

Darlington

DL1 5QE

The Proprietor
St Pius X Preparatory School
200 Garstang Road
Fulwood
Preston
Lancashire
PR2 8RD

Direct line: [REDACTED]

registration.enquiries@education.gov.uk

Our ref: 888/6004

9 April 2019

Dear Proprietor

I refer to the inspection by Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) that was carried out at the above school under section 109 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 between 27 and 28 February 2019. You will see from the enclosed report that ISI noted serious regulatory failings.

Taking account of the report the Secretary of State is satisfied, pursuant to section 114(1) of the Education and Skills Act 2008, that any one or more of the independent school standards¹ is or are not being met in relation to the school.

In these circumstances I enclose a Notice, served by the Secretary of State for Education under section 114(5) of the 2008 Act, requiring an Action Plan which details the steps that will be taken to meet all of the standards set out in the Annex to the Notice and the time by which each step will be taken, to be submitted by 9 May 2019.

You are reminded that the independent school standards require that a copy of the inspection report is sent to parents and a copy is published on the school's website or, where no such website exists, is provided to parents on request. This will be checked at the next inspection.

The Action Plan must contain reasonable timescales for implementation within which the necessary action will be taken and it is expected that the implementation dates given in the Action Plan should not extend beyond 9 July 2019. A template and supporting advice is enclosed which may help you in drawing up a satisfactory Action Plan. Please can you ensure that you copy your action plan to ISI at the same time as sending it to me.

The deadline by which the Action Plan must be received by me is 9 May 2019. If this date is not met, the Secretary of State may remove the school from the Register of Independent

¹ [The Education \(Independent School Standards\) Regulations 2014 \(SI 2014/3283\)](#)

Schools or may impose a requirement restricting the school's operations (from a date following the period during which you may appeal).

I must warn you that the Secretary of State may reject an Action Plan, and in these circumstances the Secretary of State may remove the school from the Register of Independent Schools or may impose a requirement restricting the school's operations (from a date following the appeal period).

If an Action Plan is accepted, ISI may be asked to visit the school again to check that the school has fully implemented the plan and that it is fully meeting the independent school standards.

You may wish to note that this letter, the enclosed Notice and Annex(es) will be published shortly on the Gov.uk website.

Yours faithfully



Independent Education and Boarding Team

SECTION 114(5) OF THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS ACT 2008

NOTICE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

**IN RELATION TO
St Pius X Preparatory School
200 Garstang Road
Fulwood
Preston
Lancashire
PR2 8RD
("the School")**

WHEREAS

The Secretary of State for Education, being the keeper of the register of independent schools in England² –

(i) has taken into account a report in respect of an inspection of the School by the Independent Schools Inspectorate which was conducted between 27 and 28 February 2019;

(ii) is satisfied that the independent school standards, as prescribed in the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, specified in the Annex to this Notice are not being met in relation to the School.

NOW THEREFORE

In exercise of the power conferred upon him by section 114(5) of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the Secretary of State serves the following Notice on the proprietor of the School:

(1) the independent school standards set out in the Annex to this Notice are not being met in relation to the School; and

(2) the proprietor of the School is required to submit an action plan³ to the Secretary of State specifying the steps that will be taken to meet the standards, and the time by which each step will be taken, on or before 9 May 2019.


Independent Education and Boarding Team

Date 9 April 2019

² The Secretary of State is required to keep a register of independent educational institutions in England under section 95(1) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. "Independent educational institution" is defined in section 92(1) of that Act as an independent school and an independent provider of part-time education. Independent providers of part-time education are not currently regulated so effectively the requirement under section 95(1) is for the Secretary of State to keep a register of independent schools.

³ An action plan is defined in section 114(4) of the Education and Skills Act 2008.

ANNEX TO NOTICE

**St Pius X Preparatory School
200 Garstang Road
Fulwood
Preston
Lancashire
PR2 8RD
("the school")**

The following independent school standards, as prescribed in the Schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, are not being met in relation to the school:

PART 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils

The standards about the welfare, health and safety of pupils at the school are those contained in this Part.

7. The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that—

(a) arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and

(b) such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

12. The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 20054.

PART 4: Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

18. The standard in this paragraph relates to the suitability of persons appointed as members of staff at the school, other than the proprietor and supply staff.

(2) The standard in this paragraph is met if—

(c) the proprietor carries out appropriate checks to confirm in respect of each such person—

(ii) the person's medical fitness;

4 S.I. 2005/1541, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(iv) where appropriate, the person's qualifications;

(d) the proprietor ensures that, where relevant to any such person, an enhanced criminal record check is made in respect of that person and an enhanced criminal record certificate is obtained before or as soon as practicable after that person's appointment;

(e) in the case of any person for whom, by reason of that person living or having lived outside the United Kingdom, obtaining such a certificate is not sufficient to establish the person's suitability to work in a school, such further checks are made as the proprietor considers appropriate, having regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

and in the light of the information from the checks referred to in paragraphs (c) to (e) the proprietor considers that the person is suitable for the position to which the person is appointed.

(3) The checks referred to in sub-paragraphs (2)(c) and (except where sub-paragraph (4) applies) (2)(e) must be completed before a person's appointment.

21. The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor keeps a register which shows such of the information referred to in sub-paragraphs (3) to (7) as is applicable to the school in question.

(3) The information referred to in this sub-paragraph is—

(a) in relation to each member of staff ("S") appointed on or after 1st May 2007, whether—

(iii) a check was made to establish whether S is subject to any direction made under section 128 of the 2008 Act or section 142 of the 2002 Act or any disqualification, prohibition or restriction which takes effect as if contained in such a direction.

(6) The information referred to in this sub-paragraph is, in relation each member ("MB") of a body of persons named as the proprietor appointed on or after 1st May 2007, whether the checks referred to in paragraph 20(6)(b) were made, the date they were made and the date on which the resulting certificate was obtained.

PART 8: Quality of leadership in and management of schools

34. (1) The standard about the quality of leadership and management is met if the proprietor ensures that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school—

(a) demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently;

(b) fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and

(c) actively promote the well-being of pupils.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(c) “well-being” means well-being within the meaning of section 10(2) of the Children Act 2004.

⁵ 2004 c.31.