

Inspection of Norham Secondary School

Chapeton Road, Manchester, M1 Q1U

Inspection dates:

2nd October 2023

Overall effectiveness

Requires Improvement

The quality of education

Requires Improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires Improvement

Personal development

Requires Improvement

Leadership and management

Good

Previous inspection grade

Not previously inspected under section 5
of the Education Act 2005

What is it like to attend this school?

Inspectors gained insight into different areas of the school. In which we had fully reliant conversations with different students, to gain insight on different areas of the school. During these conversations, students registered their views on different things, in which inspectors looked out for. These students expressed their differentiated views on education, and support in different ways. Some students like to visit this school, however some don't, due to the lack of support and assistance during lesson, and school time.

Leaders have a range of provision, in place for students experiencing mental health issues, and general support issues. Leaders work with the different areas and students in order to provide effective support, and time, to deliver the best possible regulation for student safety, and support. Although most students enjoy the curriculum and lessons put in place, a few students however, do not. At times, pupils show limited respect to both students and staff, in which this makes teaching frustrating for staff and leaders. However, leaders have put channelling resources in place in order to tackle these behaviour increases.

What does the school do well and what does it need to improve on?

- Senior leaders have worked with subject/faculty leaders in order to develop a broad and balanced curriculum, for all students and staff to follow, for the best outcomes. In lessons, teachers do not check-up on students enough in order to prove their understanding of the lessons.
- The school and leaders can effectively communicate over particular things, in a well-organised manner. However, staff and leaders need to improve on how to speak to students, and where to speak to students in order to cause less fuss, and keep the environment calm, and respected for the student.
- In this school, there are an amazingly wide range of subjects taught to each individual student, from history, to english, to design technology, etc. Pupils like the choice and enjoy how it is shared across the Educational Unit (SEND, and BSU), and how it fits the pupils learning, and how it effectively changes during the lessons and as they go on through the academic year.

- In most lessons, behaviour is not managed to an up-right standard, teachers and leaders do not take the right approach in accordance to the behavioural policy. Leaders do not enforce the policy to a strict standard, in which this causes some students to misbehave in lessons, and it gives them a chance to disobey all teacher expectations, and rules.

- In some lessons the behaviour is horrific, and students do not behave to the standards in which are to be enforced. However, during social times, and student free-time; it gives a chance for students to enjoy themselves whilst seeing their friends, whilst some students don't like that and some students decide to misbehave, even when given social/free-time.

- During some procedures, as seen during a fire drill, the evacuation procedure was clearly mentioned beforehand, and it gave staff and students a chance to give it a go, yet the policies and procedures put in place are rarely used in the case of a drill, the pupils are scattered around, and the drill is messy, and not realistically registered, up to the standards in which we'd expect of them.

- Attendance in this school is very high, in regards to other schools. Leaders have high expectations of students' attendance, and wish to strive for attendance every day in order to ensure students get the education they deserve.

- Leaders in this school are respectful, and ambitious within the roles they serve. The leaders represent themselves in a high manner, and wish to continue their journeys with dedication in order to flourish their hard-work, and time with power, in order to do what is best for the school.

Safeguarding

Measures in place for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding are experienced and knowledgeable. The school has clear processes for identifying pupils that may be at risk. Leaders have strong professional relationships with other key staff members. Leaders provide staff with regular safeguarding training. As a result, staff know how to identify any concerns and where to report them. Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe from harm. They know who to talk to if they have any concerns. All staff actions and decisions are appropriately recorded.

How can I feed back my views?

You can use Ofsted peopleView to give Ofsted your opinion on a school, or to find out what other people think. We use information from Ofsted peopleView when deciding which schools to inspect, when to inspect them and as part of their inspection.

The Discord server has further guidance on how to complain about a school.

Further information

You can search for published performance information about the school. In the report, 'disadvantaged pupils' refers to those pupils who attract government pupil premium funding: pupils claiming free school meals at any point in the last six years and pupils in care or who left care through adoption or another formal route.

School Details

Unique reference number	234038
Local authority	Greater Manchester CA
Inspection number	02102301
Type of school	Secondary selective
School category	Academy free school
Age range of pupils	13-15
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	695 (accurate at time of inspection)
Appropriate authority	GMCA
Executive Headteacher	Archie Wentworth
Website	Not recorded
Date of previous inspection	Not previously inspected

Information about the school

- This school has not yet had its first section 48 inspection.
- The school uses no alternative providers.
- The school meets the requirements of the Baker Clause, which requires schools to provide pupils in Year 8 to 13 with information about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships as part of the schools careers guidance programme.

Information about this inspection

The inspectors carried out this graded inspection under section 5 of the Education Act 2005.

Due to the grading received, inspectors may conduct a monitoring visit at this school, provided at least 24 hours notice is provided.

- This was the first routine inspection of the school received since it opened.
- Inspectors have taken this into account during their evaluation.
- Inspectors held meetings with the acting headteacher, and other senior leaders.
- Inspectors met with leaders with responsibility for safeguarding; pastoral care; teaching & learning.
- Inspectors carried out deep dives into these subjects: technology
- For each deep dive, inspectors discussed the curriculum with subject leaders, visited a sample of lessons, spoke to teachers, spoke to some pupils about their learning and looked at samples of pupils' work.
- Inspectors also spoke to leaders about the curriculum in some other subjects.
- Inspectors considered the school's policies and procedures for safeguarding.
- Inspectors looked at documentation related to core aspects of the school.
- Inspectors met with a representative of the school (Exec. Headteacher)
- Inspectors considered responses from pupils.

Inspection team

James Hepworth

His Majesty's Chief Inspector

Matthew Daniels

His Majesty's Inspector, Chief Operations Officer

Alexander Taylor-Wilson

His Majesty's Inspector, National Director for
Education

No other inspectors were present during this inspection.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, provided you have applicable permission. To seek this, contact our legal department.

This publication is available at <https://www.ofsted-rblx.co.uk/school-reports/>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 187 1962
Textphone: 0161 187 1962
E: enquiries@ofsted-rblx.co.uk
W: <https://www.ofsted-rblx.co.uk/>

© Copyright Ofsted ROBLOX 2023

This document was made for ro-school use only, we do not have any affiliation with Ofsted in real life. All information given is fictional, excluding website links & emails (in some cases).