

Progress monitoring inspection report

7 July 2025

Chesham Preparatory School

Two Dells Lane
Orchard Leigh
Chesham
Buckinghamshire
HP5 3QF

The Independent Schools Inspectorate is appointed by the Department for Education to inspect association independent schools in England. Our inspections report on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards and other applicable regulatory requirements are met, collectively referred to in this report as 'the Standards'.

Inspection outcome

The school meets all the relevant Standards that were considered during this inspection.

Inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

ISSR paragraphs 7(a) and (b), 15

1. The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding, which includes suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils. The policy is effectively implemented by leaders. They ensure that staff have frequent training to fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities. The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) completes appropriate training, which is in line with statutory guidance and local requirements.
2. Leaders embed an effective culture of safeguarding. Staff are vigilant. They understand what to do if they have concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm. Staff also know what to do if they have concerns about the behaviour of adults in school, including the need to report these concerns without delay. The DSL keeps detailed and thorough records, which are kept securely. These records include the reasons for leaders' decisions and the actions taken to follow up concerns.
3. Leaders work effectively with external agencies, when necessary, to protect and support pupils at risk of harm, and also with parents to help ensure that the individual needs of pupils are met. The governors maintain detailed oversight of safeguarding procedures and check that these are properly implemented, including through an annual review of safeguarding.
4. Pupils are supported effectively in learning how to keep themselves safe, including online. Internet monitoring and filtering is effective and appropriately reviewed by leaders. Leaders understand the contextual safeguarding risks to pupils, including risks of radicalisation and extremism, and take appropriate steps to mitigate these.
5. The proprietor ensures that an admission and attendance register is now maintained in accordance with statutory guidance. Leaders have appointed a senior attendance champion who monitors attendance data and provides suitable support to pupils and parents to improve attendance. The senior attendance champion reports to leaders and governors and liaises with the local authority where required. Leaders ensure staff follow the school attendance policy and procedures effectively which includes the use of the correct codes in the attendance register.
6. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

7. Leaders meet the requirements for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents by publishing the safeguarding policy on the school's website.
8. The school meets the Standards.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraphs 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c)

9. Senior leaders and governors receive appropriate training to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge so that the school meets the Standards.

10. Since the previous inspection, the proprietor has ensured that leaders have fully implemented their action plan. Staff and governors have received specific training regarding admission and attendance. Attendance is linked to safeguarding and reported as such throughout the school and to governors. There is now a robust system of ensuring all statutory updates are understood by leaders and managers.
11. Governors have an annual review cycle of policies so that they have appropriate oversight and ensure that leaders actively promote the wellbeing of pupils.
12. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Chesham Preparatory School
Department for Education number	825/6027
Registered charity number	310642
Address	Chesham Preparatory School Two Dells Lane Orchard Leigh Chesham Buckinghamshire HP5 3QF
Phone number	01494 782619
Email address	office@cheshamprep.co.uk
Website	www.cheshamprep.co.uk
Proprietor	Chesham Preparatory School Trust Ltd
Chair	Mr Ben Cartledge
Headteacher	Mr Jonathan Beale
Age range	3 to 11
Number of pupils	384
Number of children in the early years setting	59
Date of previous inspection	3 to 5 December 2024

Information about the school

14. Chesham Preparatory School is an independent co-educational day school located near Chesham, Buckinghamshire. It consists of the seniors, for pupils aged nine to eleven, the juniors, for those aged five to nine, and the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), for children aged three to five. The school is a registered charity, with a board of governors who provide proprietorial oversight.
15. There is one Nursery class and two Reception classes in the early years.
16. The school has identified 37 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. A small number of pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan.
17. The school has identified a small number of pupils for whom English is an additional language.
18. The school states that its aims are to provide exceptional learning and a kaleidoscope of experiences that make a lifetime of difference.

Purpose of the progress monitoring inspection

Inspectors carried out this inspection under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. This inspection was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection which was carried out at the request of the Department for Education. The purpose of this inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the Independent School Standards and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection date

7 July 2025

19. One reporting inspector visited the school for one day.

20. Inspection activities included:

- discussions with the chair and safeguarding governors
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils
- scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school
- scrutiny of information published on the school's website.

How are association independent schools in England inspected?

- The Department for Education is the regulator for independent schools in England.
- ISI is approved by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England, which are members of associations in membership of the Independent Schools Council.
- ISI inspections report to the Department for Education on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards, the EYFS statutory framework requirements, the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and any other relevant Standards are met.
- For more information, please visit **www.isi.net**.

Independent Schools Inspectorate

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