



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Progress Monitoring Inspection Report

St John's Beaumont School

January 2023

School's details

School	St John's Beaumont School		
DfE number	936/6422		
Registered charity number	230165		
Address	St John's Beaumont School Priest Hill Old Windsor Windsor Berkshire SL4 2JN		
Telephone number	01784 432428		
Email address	hmoffice@sjb.email		
Head	Dr Deneal Smith		
Chair of proprietors	Father Damian Howard		
Proprietors	The Society of Jesus 1929 Trust		
Age range	3 to 13		
Number of pupils on roll	214		
	Day pupils	185	Boarders 29
	Pre-Prep	55	Middle School 75
	Upper School	84	
Date of inspection	13 January 2023		

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 St John's Beaumont School is an independent Roman Catholic preparatory school for boarding and day pupils. It is located near Windsor and is registered as a single sex school for male pupils. The school comprises three departments: pre-prep, for pupils in Nursery to Year 2, which includes an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) setting; middle school for pupils in Years 3 to 5; and upper school for those in Years 6 to 8. Pupils can board from Year 3. There is one boarding house situated on the main school site. The school operates as a charitable trust under the trusteeship of the British Province of the Society of Jesus. A governing body acts for the trustees. There are 24 pupils who receive support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). One pupil has an education, health and care (EHC) plan. There are 19 pupils who speak English as an additional language (EAL). The school's previous inspection was a focused compliance and educational quality inspection in November 2021. A new chair of the local governing council and a new headmaster took up their appointments in September 2022.

Purpose of the inspection

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the progress monitoring inspection on 11 October 2022. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs), the National Minimum Standards for Boarding 2022 and the requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraphs 7 (safeguarding) and 8 (safeguarding of boarders); NMS 8	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (publication of safeguarding policy)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management); NMS 2	Met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8; NMS 8]

Safeguarding policy

- 2.1 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.2 The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.

Safeguarding implementation

- 2.3 The school meets the standards.
- 2.4 The school now implements its safeguarding policy effectively. Scrutiny of records together with discussions with pupils and staff indicate that appropriate safeguards are in place and operate appropriately. Pupils, including boarders, stated confidently that they know how to stay safe, including online. They confirmed that they can talk to staff if they are worried or concerned, will receive a response, and that action will be taken when they express concerns. Inspection evidence confirms this.
- 2.5 Those responsible for safeguarding hold senior positions within the school. They are suitably knowledgeable and appropriately trained, including for multi-agency working. Key information is shared regularly between safeguarding, pastoral and healthcare staff, taking into account each individual pupil's physical, emotional and mental health, and their learning needs and wishes. This information is used to agree appropriate action, including the drawing-up and implementation of individual support plans. Such action includes appropriate steps to deal with any incidents of inappropriate sexual behaviour, including sexual harassment and/or sexual violence. There is effective liaison with external agencies including referral to Child and Adolescent Health Services. Training for other staff and for local governors is conducted regularly as required. It is effective and includes frequent newsletters to inform staff of current issues for safeguarding and pastoral consideration.
- 2.6 Staff are knowledgeable about changes in recent legislation including the management of children's mental wellbeing, contextual safeguarding, child-on-child abuse, sexual harassment and sexual violence. They understand the principles underpinning the code of conduct in the staff handbook. Staff demonstrate suitable confidence in safeguarding procedures such as when using the digital reporting system to monitor pupils' behaviour and any concerns. They confirmed in discussion with inspectors the procedures for making a referral, including the importance of low-level reporting and whistleblowing. Senior leaders take appropriate action if any perceived breach of the staff code of conduct occurs. They now seek advice from and refer concerns to the local authority designated officer (LADO) for safeguarding appropriately and promptly, including when allegations are received regarding potential staff misconduct. They understand their responsibility to make referral to relevant statutory bodies once investigations by themselves and external agencies are completed. They fulfil this obligation effectively.
- 2.7 The local governing council lead member responsible for safeguarding meets regularly with the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and members of the extended safeguarding team. Governing council members maintain effective oversight of safeguarding policies and their implementation on behalf of the proprietor. Reports are given regularly to the council so that they are well informed. These highlight appropriate details of any safeguarding incidents and the council lead member for safeguarding reviews these effectively. This ensures that the governing council provides effective scrutiny and oversight on behalf of the proprietor, including of the use of technology. The council

maintains effective communication with the proprietor in acting on their behalf. In addition to continuous monitoring, a suitable annual review of safeguarding is undertaken in line with guidance from the local authority.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c)]

- 2.8 The school meets the requirements for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents. Particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are published on the school's website

Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34; NMS 2]

- 2.9 The school meets the standards.
- 2.10 The proprietor ensures that senior leaders and members of the governing council demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that all the other standards are consistently met, and they actively promote the wellbeing of the pupils. The school has implemented the action plan produced following the previous inspection effectively.

3. Regulatory action points

- 3.1 For the regulations which were the focus of this inspection, the school meets all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2022 and requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework, and no further action is required as a result of this inspection.

4. Summary of evidence

4.1 The inspectors held discussions with the head, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the chair of the local governing council. They visited different areas of the school and talked with groups of pupils. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.

Inspectors

Mr Desmond Dunne

Reporting inspector

Mrs Daphne Cawthorne

Assistant reporting inspector