



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Material Change Inspection Report

Cranmore School

June 2023

School's details

School	Cranmore School			
DfE number	936/6519			
Registered charity number	1138636			
Address	Cranmore School Epsom Road West Horsley Leatherhead Surrey KT24 6AT			
Telephone number	01483 280340			
Email address	office@cranmore.org			
Headmaster	Mr Barry Everitt			
Co-chairs of governors	Mr Mike Henderson and Mrs Annette Turner			
Proprietor	Effingham Schools Trust			
Age range	2 to 16			
Number of pupils on roll	503			
	Nursery	54	Lower Prep	120
	Upper Prep	150	Senior school	179
Date of inspection	28 June 2023			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Cranmore School is a Roman Catholic day school for male pupils aged 2 to 16 years and female pupils aged 2 to 7 years. It was founded on its present site in West Horsley, Surrey in 1968. It is overseen by a governing body as part of the Effingham Schools Trust. The school is organised in three sections: lower prep, for pupils aged 2 to 8 years, which incorporates the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), known as the nursery; upper prep, for pupils aged 8 to 11 years and senior school, for pupils aged 11 to 16 years. There are 80 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), none of whom has an education, health and care (EHC) plan. Six pupils speak English as an additional language. The school's previous inspection was a focused compliance inspection, along with and inspection of educational quality, which took place in February 2022.

Purpose of the inspection

- 1.2 This was an announced material change inspection at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to assess the school's proposal to increase the maximum number of pupils from 525 to 650. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs), and the requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 11 (health and safety)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 12 (fire safety)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 14 (supervision of pupils)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 16 (risk assessment)	Met
Part 4, paragraphs 18 – 21 (suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors)	Met
Part 5, paragraphs 23 – 29 (premises and accommodation)	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management)	Met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 7]

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 standard.
- 2.4 The school acts in the best interests of the child and implements its policy effectively to safeguard the welfare of pupils. It encourages pupils to share any worries or concerns that they might have and responds appropriately and in accordance with locally agreed procedures should concerns present themselves. Pupils stated that they receive a response if they express a concern and this is confirmed by records of safeguarding. The school liaises with relevant external agencies suitably, including with regard to any safeguarding concerns about staff that arise. It implements appropriate arrangements for dealing with child-on-child abuse and provides suitable support to any pupils affected by this. The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and deputy DSLs ensure that they and all staff are suitably trained and understand the different forms of abuse and the procedures to follow should a safeguarding issue arise. Staff who spoke to the inspector understood the expectations of the staff code of conduct. They voiced the confidence to raise safeguarding concerns and act as a whistleblower if necessary. The school implements effective safer recruitment procedures. It educates pupils about how to keep themselves safe, including when online, and filters and monitors school internet usage effectively. Governors are appropriately trained. They maintain regular and effective oversight of the safeguarding policy and procedures. The safeguarding team provides sufficient coverage for its role, including in the EYFS, and has the capacity to continue to do so once the proposed increase in pupil numbers takes place.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – health and safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 11]

- 2.5 The school meets the standard.
- 2.6 The school implements its health and safety policy effectively. Scrutiny of maintenance logs confirms that all required checks and maintenance are carried out regularly and systematically. Governors maintain effective oversight of health and safety through a committee which meet regularly. Health and safety arrangements are likely to remain suitable once the proposed material change takes place.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – fire safety [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 12]

- 2.7 The school meets the standard.
- 2.8 The school maintains and acts upon regular fire risk assessments for all parts of the premises, including a recent new building. It ensures that staff receive appropriate training in fire safety and pupils are given instructions on what to do in the event of a fire. Fire evacuation drills take place at least termly and at different times of day. Leaders ensure that firefighting and fire detection equipment is checked and serviced appropriately. Emergency exit routes, lighting and fire doors are maintained suitably, and fire signage is clear. The school's fire safety arrangements are likely to remain suitable once the proposed material change takes place.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – supervision of pupils [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 14]

- 2.9 The school meets the standard.
- 2.10 Leaders ensure that pupils, including children in the EYFS, are suitably supervised. Staff are deployed effectively before, during and after school, including during lessons, breaks and lunchtime. The school employs sufficient staff to be able to supervise 650 pupils effectively across the current age range of the school.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – risk assessment [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 16]

- 2.11 The school meets the standard.
- 2.12 The school implements an appropriate written risk assessment policy effectively. Leaders and staff assess risks systematically and take appropriate action to reduce or remove these. Risk assessments seen during the inspection included appropriate control measures to mitigate the potential risks identified and took into account pupils' welfare needs. The school's risk assessment arrangements are likely to remain suitable once the proposed material change takes place.

Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors [ISSR Part 4, paragraphs 18–21]

- 2.13 The school meets the standard.
- 2.14 The school carries out the required pre-employment checks on staff and proprietors. (It does not use supply staff.) These checks are recorded as required in the single central register of appointments.

Premises and accommodation – [ISSR Part 5, paragraphs 23–29]

- 2.15 The school meets the standards.
- 2.16 The school provides pupils with suitable toilet, washing, changing and medical facilities. The school premises are clean, well maintained and appropriately lit, both internally and externally. The school supplies appropriate water. The acoustics of the buildings, including the music rooms, are suitable. The premises and accommodation, including the toilets, washrooms, dining facilities and classrooms, have sufficient capacity to cater for the proposed increase in the maximum number of pupils.

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

- 2.17 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]

- 2.18 The school meets the standard.
- 2.19 The proprietor ensures that the leadership and management demonstrate good skills and knowledge, and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the other standards are consistently met, and they actively promote the wellbeing of the pupils. Leaders have planned and prepared effectively for the proposed material change. In particular, they have appointed sufficient staff to cater for the proposed increase in the maximum number of pupils and opened a new science and technology centre with additional teaching spaces to increase teaching accommodation appropriately.

3. Recommendation with regard to material change inspection

- 3.1 It is recommended that the school's proposal, to increase the maximum number of pupils from 525 to 650, be approved.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspector held discussions with the headmaster, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with one of the two chairs of governors. He visited different areas of the school, talked with groups of pupils and scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.

Inspectors

Mr Steven Popper

Reporting inspector