



Material Change Inspection Report

Wotton House International School

December 2022

School's details

School	Wotton House International School			
DfE number	916/6006			
Address	Wotton House International School Horton Road Gloucester Gloucestershire GL1 3PR			
Telephone number	01452 764248			
Email address	info@wottonhouseschool.co.uk			
Principal	Dr Daniel Sturdy			
Proprietor	Dr Daniel Sturdy			
Age range	7 to 16			
Number of pupils on roll	80			
	Prep	25	Seniors	55
Date of inspection	15 December 2022			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Wotton House International School is an independent co-educational day school for pupils aged 7 to 16 years. It follows the International Baccalaureate (IB), teaching the Middle Years Programme. The school was founded in September 2016 and is owned by International Village Education Ltd. The owner of this company is the proprietor of the school and the school's principal. The principal and another family member are named directors and are responsible for the school's oversight. Additional guidance on governance is provided through an advisory board. The school has 25 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), of whom 15 have an education, health and care (EHC) plan. A small number of pupils speak English as an additional language (EAL) but do not require support in this regard. The school's previous inspection was a regulatory compliance inspection in November 2021.

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 age range from 7-16 to 5-17, the increase in the upper age limit being designed to enable some pupils to conclude the Middle Years Programme in Year 12. There is no request to increase the overall number of pupils. The inspection of November 2021 found the school to be compliant and this inspection was concerned mainly with educational aspects of the regulations. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs).

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 1, paragraph 2 (curriculum)	Met
Part 1, paragraph 3 (teaching)	Met
Part 1, paragraph 4 (framework for pupils' performance)	Met
Part 2, paragraph 5 (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils)	Met
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management)	Met

2. Inspection findings

Quality of education provided – curriculum, sex and relationships education (RSE), teaching, framework for pupils' performance and SMSC [ISSR Part 1, paragraphs 2-4 and ISSR Part 2, paragraph 5]

- 2.1 The school meets the standards.
- 2.2 The quality of education provided, including RSE, meets all requirements for the pupils.
- 2.3 The curriculum, which is appropriate for current pupils at all ages and abilities is suitably documented, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work and covers the required breadth of material. The current curriculum programme followed by the school includes schemes of work for pupils from the age of five which will enable appropriate provision to be made for younger pupils. The school makes appropriate provision for those with SEND and EAL, and the school's provision meets the needs of those pupils with EHC plans.
- 2.4 An effective programme of personal, social and health education, which includes the requirements for RSE, is implemented together with appropriate careers guidance for older pupils.
- 2.5 Teaching enables all pupils to make good progress, encompasses effective behaviour management and is supported by suitable resources. There are sufficient and suitably qualified teaching staff. A suitable framework for the assessment of pupils' performance is in place.
- 2.6 Provision for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is appropriate. It promotes principles which enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence; distinguish right from wrong; accept responsibility for their behaviour; and acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions. It furthers tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures. It encourages respect for other people, including those with protected characteristics.
- 2.7 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements if the age range is extended as proposed.

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

Safeguarding policy

- 2.8 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.9 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

- 2.10 The school meets the standard.
- 2.11 The safeguarding policy is effectively implemented at all levels in each section of the school. The policy includes details of Prevent duty guidance and is further supported by suitable policies covering the staff code of conduct, safe recruitment, whistleblowing and e-safety. These are understood and implemented appropriately by staff. The designated safeguarding lead (DSL), oversees the deputy DSLs and ensures that safeguarding matters are reported, recorded, collated and monitored effectively and that appropriate actions are taken. The DSL has an effective relationship with local agencies and makes appropriate referrals. The DSL and other members of the safeguarding team have sufficient capacity to ensure effective safeguarding implementation regarding the proposed extension of age range of pupils. The safeguarding arrangements are reviewed annually by the advisory board

members on behalf of the proprietor. They have appropriate knowledge, liaise closely with the DSL and enable the proprietor's effective oversight.

- 2.12 Pupils can express concerns, are listened to and receive appropriate support, including early help, and there is due regard for their mental health. Pupils confirmed they feel safe at school. Staff understand child-on-child abuse, including issues such as sexual harassment and sexual violence, and take appropriate action when incidents occur. Staff training in safeguarding, including for all members of the safeguarding team, is comprehensive including appropriate attention to handling allegations and online safety. The use of technology by pupils is suitably controlled. Where allegations are made the school responds appropriately making prompt referral to external agencies, including the Disclosure and Barring Service and Teaching Regulation Agency.
- 2.13 The school is likely to continue to meet the requirements if the age range is extended as proposed.

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

- 2.14 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]

- 2.15 The school meets the standard.
- 2.16 The proprietor ensures that senior leaders and managers demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the other standards are met consistently, and they actively promote the wellbeing of the pupils. The proprietor and senior leaders have prepared comprehensively regarding the proposed material change and the school is likely to continue to meet the requirements if the age range is extended as proposed.

3. Recommendation with regard to material change inspection

Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that that the material change request be approved. The school's existing provision of education and arrangements for safeguarding are likely to continue to meet the standards checked if the material change is implemented.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspector held discussions with the principal, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the proprietor and an advisory board member. He visited different areas of the school, observed lessons and talked with groups of pupils. He scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.

Inspectors

Mr Andrew Farren

Reporting inspector