



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Progress Monitoring Inspection Report

Forres Sandle Manor School

January 2023

School's details

School	Forres Sandle Manor School			
DfE number	850/6042			
Registered charity number	284260			
Address	Forres Sandle Manor School Sandle Manor Fordingbridge Hampshire SP6 1NS			
Telephone number	01425 653181			
Email address	office@fsmsschool.com			
Head	Mr Mark Howe			
Proprietor	Mr Bo Sun			
Age range	2 to 13			
Number of pupils on roll	132			
	Day pupils	99	Boarders	33
	EYFS	35	Pre prep	27
	Prep	70		
Date of inspection	16 January 2023			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Forres Sandle Manor School is an independent co-educational day and boarding school located in the town of Fordingbridge on the edge of the New Forest. The school is a limited company, based in China, owned by the proprietor and overseen by a board of governors on his behalf. The school is divided into three sections: the pre-prep for pupils attending Nursery to Year 2; the middle school for pupils in Years 3 to 5; and the upper school for pupils in Years 6 to 8. Pupils between the ages of seven and thirteen years may board, either on a flexi, weekly or full-time basis and all are accommodated in boarding areas segregated by gender in the main school building. Since the previous inspection, a new head was appointed in September 2022. The school has identified 17 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). One pupil has an educational, health and care (EHC) plan. English is an additional language (EAL) for 6 pupils. The school's previous inspection was a regulatory compliance inspection in May 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 regulatory compliance inspection on 18 to 20 May 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 4, paragraphs 18–21 (suitability of staff); NMS 19	Met
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	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 and the requirements.
- 2.4 The school implements its policy effectively to ensure the safeguarding of pupils, including in the EYFS. The school's arrangements reflect fully the content of *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022*. Suitable arrangements are in place for listening to pupils and for liaising with parents and external agencies when required. This was confirmed in the scrutiny of records and discussions with pupils. Pupils say that they feel safe, confident in the knowledge that staff will take appropriate action to address any concerns they might have. Appropriate procedures are in place for handling concerns relating to child-on-child abuse and allegations against adults working in the school.
- 2.5 Staff, including those with leadership responsibility for safeguarding, are suitably trained, including with regard to the prevention of radicalisation. Records of this training are systematically kept and show that the training for all staff is current and appropriate. On joining the school, new members of staff receive appropriate induction in safeguarding. Those members of staff interviewed demonstrated a secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities and of the staff code of conduct. Staff share and record concerns diligently and know that they can make a direct referral to children's services if necessary. They have a clear understanding of current definitions of abuse and recognise the vulnerability of pupils with protected characteristics. Staff confirm that they are aware of the procedures necessary to minimise the risk of child-on-child abuse and recognise the possibility that such abuse may be taking place without being reported.
- 2.6 Effective procedures are now implemented to ensure that appropriate and timely checks are made to confirm the suitability of staff. These include checks against the list of those prohibited from teaching. The school meets the requirement to inform staff of their obligation to report if they may be disqualified from childcare, including any staff working in boarding with children under the age of eight. The proprietor now exercises suitable oversight of the school's safeguarding arrangements. This is undertaken through an annual review of policy and procedures in addition to regular monitoring of recruitment checks.

Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors [ISSR Part 4, paragraphs 18–21; NMS 19]

- 2.7 The school meets the standards and the requirements.
- 2.8 The school makes appropriate checks to ensure the suitability of staff and proprietors. These now include suitable checks on staff who have worked overseas prior to appointment. A register is kept as required and all appointments are accurately and fully recorded. Visitors to boarding accommodation are appropriately supervised.

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

- 2.9 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]

- 2.10 The school meets the standards and the requirements.
- 2.11 The proprietor has taken effective measures to ensure that previous failings have been addressed by successfully implementing the school's action plan. School leaders and managers now demonstrate good skills and knowledge, and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the independent school standards are consistently met, and the wellbeing of the pupils is actively promoted. They ensure that all policies and records required by Appendix 2 of the NMS are maintained and monitored 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, 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 directors. They visited different areas of the school, observed lessons and talked with groups of pupils. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.

Inspectors

Mr Stephen Fox

Reporting inspector

Dr Gerard Silverlock

Assistant reporting inspector