

Report for a Progress Monitoring Visit

School name	Sunningdale School		
DfE number	868/6007		
Address	Sunningdale School Dry Arch Road Ascot Berkshire SL5 9PZ		
Headmaster	Mr Tom Dawson		
Proprietor	Mr Tim Dawson		
Number of pupils on roll	95		
	Boys	95	Girls 0
	Day pupils	16	Boarders 79
	Juniors	52	Seniors 43
Date of visit	29 May 2019		

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Sunningdale School is an independent day and boarding school for boys aged from seven to thirteen years, overseen by an individual proprietor who is the father of the current headmaster. Seventeen pupils require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities, one of whom has an education, health and care plan. Twelve pupils speak English as an additional language. The school's previous focused compliance and educational quality inspections took place on 13 to 15 October 2018.

Purpose of the visit

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring visit at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the previous focused compliance and educational quality inspections on 13 to 15 October 2018.

Regulations which were the focus of the visit	Team judgements
ISSR Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding); paragraph 8 (safeguarding of boarders); and NMS 11 (child protection)	Remains not met
ISSR Part 4, paragraphs 18 to 21 (suitability of staff); NMS 14.1 (staff recruitment and checks on other adults)	Remains partially not met
ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32 (1)(c)(provision of information)	Met
ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership in and management of schools); NMS 13 (management and development of boarding)	Remains not met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8; NMS 11]

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 does not meet the standards.
- 2.4 The designated safeguarding lead (DSL), deputy DSL and staff have had adequate safeguarding training and understand the procedures to follow should a safeguarding concern arise. Any concerns are reported promptly, including to external agencies when appropriate. The school has clear and well-understood whistleblowing procedures. The proprietor, supported by the DSL, conducts an adequate annual review of safeguarding.
- 2.5 Since the previous inspection, the school has ensured that all new appointees are, when applicable, subject to checks of the barred list and lists of those prohibited from teaching or from management of independent schools. The school has obtained two suitable references for all staff appointed since the previous inspection. However, the school does not maintain a single central record of these pre-appointment checks in accordance with the requirements of *Keeping Children Safe in Education* 2018.

Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors [ISSR Part 4, paragraphs 18 to 21; NMS 14]

- 2.6 The school does not meet all of the standards.
- 2.7 The school has partly met the action plan put in place following the previous inspection. It has ensured that all required checks, including those of identity and of medical fitness, are carried out before staff commence working at the school. However, the school has not ensured that the single central register of appointments (SCR) adequately documents all the pre-employment checks that need to be recorded on the SCR. In particular, the school has not ensured that the SCR records overseas checks correctly.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32]

- 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 13]

- 2.9 The school does not meet all of the standards.
- 2.10 The proprietor does not ensure that leaders and managers demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the other standards are consistently met. The proprietor does not monitor the effectiveness of the leadership and management or take appropriate action where necessary to ensure that the other standards are consistently met.

3. Regulatory action points

- 3.1 The school does not meet all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2015 and should take immediate action to remedy deficiencies as detailed below.

ISSR Part 3, Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding

- Ensure that the school maintains a single central record of pre-appointment checks in accordance with the requirements of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018 [paragraphs 7(a) and (b); 8(a) and (b); NMS 11].

ISSR Part 4, Suitability of staff

- Ensure that the SCR correctly documents all the pre-employment checks, particularly overseas checks, which need to be recorded [paragraph 21(1), 21(3)(a)(viii); NMS 14.1].

ISSR Part 8, Quality of leadership and management

- Ensure that the proprietor monitors the effectiveness of leadership and management and takes appropriate action where necessary to ensure that leaders and managers demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the other standards are consistently met [paragraph 34 (1)(a) and (b); NMS 13.1, 13.3 and 13.4].

4. Summary of evidence

Written materials

- Safeguarding policy
- Records of staff training with particular reference to safeguarding
- Code of conduct for staff
- Staff recruitment policy
- Single central register of appointments and selected staff files

Meetings with school personnel

- Introductory meeting with headmaster – to discuss arrangements for the day and to provide initial thoughts on areas specified as focus for the visit
- Meeting with the DSL (also the headmaster) – to discuss implementation of safeguarding policy, training and induction of new staff
- Meetings with the bursar and the headmaster – to review the school's recruitment procedures, to scrutinise the single central register of appointments and to check staff recruitment files
- Meeting with five staff – to discuss their training and the safeguarding of pupils
- Review meeting with the headmaster – to explain findings

Activities on site

- Further scrutiny and evaluation of implementation of policies and documentation (as detailed above)
- Meeting of inspectors