



**ISI** Independent  
Schools  
Inspectorate

## **Report for a Progress Monitoring Visit**

**The Old Hall School**

**October 2019**



## School's details

<b>School</b>	The Old Hall School			
<b>DfE number</b>	894/6000			
<b>Registered charity number</b>	528417			
<b>Address</b>	The Old Hall School Stanley Road Wellington Shropshire TF1 3LB			
<b>Telephone number</b>	01952 223117			
<b>Email address</b>	enq@oldhall.co.uk			
<b>Headteacher</b>	Mr Martin Stott			
<b>Chair of governors</b>	Mr Richard Pearson			
<b>Age range</b>	4 to 11			
<b>Number of pupils on roll</b>	220			
	<b>EYFS</b>	24	<b>Juniors</b>	196
<b>Date of visit</b>	14 October 2019			

## 1. Introduction

### Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 The Old Hall School is an independent day co-educational school for pupils aged between four and eleven years. Founded in 1845, it merged with Wrekin College in 2007 with whom it shares its current site in Wellington, near Telford in Shropshire. It is overseen by a governing body which consists of the trustees of the Wrekin Old Hall Trust. The school is organised in two sections: the lower school, which includes the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Years 1 to 2; and the upper school, for pupils in Years 3 to 6. Both are managed by a single senior leadership team.
- 1.2 The school has 45 pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), of whom two have an education, health and care plan. Seventeen pupils speak English as an additional language (EAL). The school's previous inspection was a regulatory compliance inspection in 2019.

### Purpose of the visit

- 1.3 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 of regulatory compliance inspection on 13 March 2019.

Regulations which were the focus of the visit	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraph 7 (safeguarding)	Met
Part 4, (suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors)	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 standards.
- 2.4 Safeguarding arrangements are implemented effectively in-line with the most up-to-date statutory guidance and provide appropriate support for pupils' needs. All staff have received training in recent changes to regulatory guidance and on-line safety. New staff receive comprehensive induction training to ensure they understand their safeguarding responsibilities, including KCSIE 2019 Part 1 and Annex A, the staff code of conduct, their responsibility for children missing education and the behaviour policy. The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and deputies have sufficient status and authority to undertake their roles, and have appropriate levels of training, which is in line with local protocols. The DSL regularly provides informal updates on any changes to safeguarding policy and its implementation and weekly meetings give staff the opportunity to discuss concerns, receive updates to safeguarding requirements or discuss different safeguarding scenarios with the DSL.
- 2.5 Staff demonstrate that they have a strong understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities, including knowledge of the staff code of conduct and understand that they can make a referral themselves to the local authority if they have concerns. They recognise the importance of 'early help' strategies, know how to report any concerns about pupils or other staff, and understand that any concerns about senior leaders are reported to the safeguarding governor or in their absence to the LADO directly. Appropriately detailed records for safeguarding concerns are maintained, which are regularly monitored by the DSL and deputies. These show appropriate and timely liaison with both parents and local agencies with which the school has strong relationships. The full board undertakes a rigorous annual review of safeguarding arrangements and any incidents following meetings with designated staff and receipt of reports from the DSL and safeguarding governor. Minutes of these meetings demonstrate appropriate challenge and support in the governor's oversight of arrangements.

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

- 2.6 The school meets the standards.
- 2.7 The school implements the correct procedures for the recruitment of all new staff, supply staff, volunteers and proprietors before they begin work at the school. The process is correctly documented in the recruitment policy. Staff files are well maintained and contain all the required information, which is cross-referenced on a checklist within each file. The procedure for checking gap year students has been thoroughly reviewed and revised and now demonstrates a suitable procedure. Declarations to confirm that staff are not disqualified from childcare have now been updated in line with current guidance. A single central register of appointments is maintained appropriately.

**Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32]**

- 2.8 The school meets the standards.
- 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]**

- 2.10 The school meets the standard and the requirements.
- 2.11 Senior leaders and governors demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently and the school actively promotes pupils' well-being. All discrepancies identified at the previous inspection have been appropriately rectified.

### **3. Summary of evidence**

- 3.1 The inspector held discussions with the head, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the safeguarding governor. She visited different areas of the school and talked with a group of pupils. She scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.