



Progress Monitoring Inspection Report

St Peter's School

September 2023

School's details

School	St Peter's School			
DfE number	940/6002			
Registered charity number	309914			
Address	St Peter's School 52 Headlands Kettering Northamptonshire NN15 6DJ			
Telephone number	01536 512066			
Email address	STPSOffice@st-peters.org.uk			
Headteacher	Mr Mark Thomas			
Chair of governors	Mr Symon Dawson			
Proprietor	Sunnylands Ltd			
Age range	2 to 11			
Number of pupils on roll	100			
	Pre-school	20	Lower school	30
	Upper School	50		
Date of inspection	28 September 2023			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 St Peter’s School is an independent co-educational day school in Kettering. It was founded in 1946 and is overseen by a board of governors. The pre-school section includes an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) setting. The current chair of governors took up his position in March 2023. Five pupils have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), none of whom has an education, health and care plan. Ten pupils speak English as an additional language. The school’s previous inspection was a focused compliance and educational quality inspection, which took place in January and February 2023.

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 focused compliance and educational quality inspection, which took place on 31 January to 2 February 2023. 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 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; EYFS 3.7 and 3.9]

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 implements its safeguarding procedures effectively. It acts in the best interests of the child. Leaders and staff encourage pupils to share any worries and provide them with several means to do so. Pupils who spoke to the inspector said that staff respond to any concerns raised. Records of safeguarding confirm that this happens appropriately, and that suitable action is taken where necessary. The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and deputy DSL are suitably trained and provide sufficient cover for their role, including in the EYFS. Staff receive appropriate safeguarding training and understand the different types of abuse and the potential vulnerabilities of pupils with SEND. They implement an appropriate staff code of conduct effectively. The school follows locally agreed inter-agency procedures and liaises with external agencies where appropriate when any concerns about children at risk or in need are raised. It implements suitable procedures to respond to any allegations of child-on-child abuse, including by providing appropriate support to victims and perpetrators. The school also has appropriate procedures to respond to any allegations against staff, including any low-level concerns, that may arise. The school teaches pupils how to keep themselves safe, including when online. It maintains appropriate filtering and monitoring of internet usage.
- 2.5 Since the previous inspection, leaders have suitably improved the school's processes to carry out and record pre-employment safer recruitment checks. As a result, the school now ensures that it has obtained references before staff commence employment. It also ensures that barred list checks are carried out when the enhanced criminal record certificate has not been seen before staff commence working at the school. Governors, who are suitably trained in safeguarding, now maintain suitable oversight of the safeguarding policy and procedures, particularly those relating to recruitment of staff.

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

- 2.6 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]

- 2.7 The school meets the standard.
- 2.8 The proprietor has ensured that leaders have taken effective measures to implement fully the school's action plan following the previous inspection. These include strengthening leaders' and governors' monitoring of safer recruitment pre-appointment checks and the single central register. As a result, the proprietor ensures that the leadership and management 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.

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 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 inspector held discussions with the headteacher, senior leaders and other members of staff and with the chair of governors. He talked with groups of pupils and scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.