

Progress monitoring inspection report

21 November 2025

Abbey School

Hampton Court

Fore Street

St. Marychurch

Torquay

Devon

TQ1 4PR

The Independent Schools Inspectorate is appointed by the Department for Education to inspect association independent schools in England. Our inspections report on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards and other applicable regulatory requirements are met, collectively referred to in this report as ‘the Standards’.

Inspection outcome

The school meets all the relevant Standards that were considered during this inspection.

Inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

ISSR paragraphs 7(a) and (b), 11, 15, 16(a) and (b); EYFS 3.79, 3.91

1. Appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place and implemented effectively to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of pupils at the school. Leaders maintain effective contact with the local authority children's services. All members of the safeguarding team are well trained, fully understand their roles and work well with other agencies to safeguard pupils.
2. The safeguarding team co-ordinates their work effectively. Safeguarding records are detailed and include leaders' actions to follow up any concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm. This includes making referrals to the local authority. Leaders understand the importance of referring concerns relating to all aspects of safeguarding, including potential child-on-child abuse. All safeguarding information is stored securely. The arrangements in place reflect statutory requirements.
3. Staff, including those in the early years, are suitably trained in safeguarding. In addition to regular safeguarding training, staff receive appropriate safeguarding updates throughout the year to help keep them well informed. Staff understand the school's safeguarding procedures, including systems for recording and reporting concerns. They understand the principles underpinning the staff code of conduct and the procedures for making a referral, including the importance of reporting low-level concerns relating to the conduct of adults. Staff understand the whistleblowing procedures and know what to do should they have concerns to raise.
4. The proprietor and headteacher effectively oversee the school's safeguarding procedures and their implementation. They ensure that appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place to safeguard pupils and staff when they are using the internet. Leaders ensure, through regular checks, that filtering systems are effective and that staff and pupils can work safely online when they are at school. Pupils know that staff are available to them if they are worried or concerned. The proprietor ensures that an annual safeguarding review takes place and that leaders promptly act on any recommendations.
5. Records of all health and safety checks are now clearly organised and easily accessible for review and follow-up, including checks undertaken by external specialists. Regular checks on doors that should be closed during the school day, such as cleaning cupboards and the swimming pool boiler house access, are carried out to ensure pupils' safety. The proprietor also effectively oversees health and safety arrangements through frequent meetings with senior leaders and school site staff. The early years premises meet hygiene requirements. There is suitable floor space as well as outdoor learning areas for the age of children cared for. Early years fire safety equipment is in place and procedures are understood. The proprietor now ensures compliance with relevant health and safety laws by creating and effectively implementing a written health and safety policy.
6. Leaders have strengthened their arrangements to oversee the effective implementation of the school's admissions and attendance procedures. They ensure that an appropriate admissions register is maintained for all pupils. Leaders now inform the local authority when pupils join and leave the school. Attendance registers are completed at the start of each morning session and once

during each afternoon session. Registers use the correct standard set of codes, including for absences where no reason has been given which are promptly followed up. Leaders notify the relevant local authority as required when a pupil is absent for an extended period.

7. Staff have received appropriate training on completing risk assessments for school activities, trips, and residential visits. Staff, including those in early years, now understand the importance of identifying and mitigating risks to promote the wellbeing of children and of pupils at all times. Risk assessments are now checked by leaders and signed off by senior leaders. A suitable risk assessment policy is in place and implemented effectively.
8. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

9. The school meets the requirements for providing parents with safeguarding information. Particulars of the safeguarding arrangements are published on the school's website.
10. The school meets the Standards.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraph 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c)

11. The proprietor has reviewed the procedures for organising health and safety documentation and implemented rigorous checks and oversight of risk assessments. Leaders for health and safety are now held accountable for the appropriate monitoring of the school site and the organisation and accessibility of documentation related to health and safety.
12. Leaders have implemented effective staff training for, and checks on, risk assessments. Staff now understand their content and how it relates to the actions they may need to take. The proprietor now ensures that a suitable risk assessment policy has been implemented and ensures appropriate action is taken to reduce identified risks.
13. Leaders and managers therefore demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that Standards are met, and they actively promote the wellbeing of the pupils.
14. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Abbey School
Department for Education number	880/6000
Registered early years number	EY234164
Address	Abbey School Hampton Court Fore Steet St. Marychurch Torquay Devon TQ1 4PR
Phone number	01803 327868
Email address	secretary@abbeyschool.co.uk
Website	www.abbeyschool.co.uk
Proprietor	Mrs Sylvia Greinig
Headteacher	Miss Fleur Greinig
Age range	3 months to 11
Number of pupils	127
Number of children in the early years registered setting	56
Date of previous inspection	7 to 9 May 2025

Information about the school

15. Abbey School is a co-educational nursery and day school. It includes a registered early years foundation stage (EYFS) setting. The sole proprietor serves as the school's principal, with management delegated to the headteacher, who is their daughter.
16. In total, there are 83 children in the early years, comprising 56 children in the registered setting and one pupil in a combined Reception/Year 1 class.
17. The school has identified 11 pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities. No pupil in the school has an education, health and care plan.
18. The school has identified English is an additional language for three pupils.
19. The school states that its aims are to provide a stimulating, safe environment which promotes resilience, respect and responsibility. It seeks to ensure pupils are nurtured and encouraged to think creatively and critically and engages pupils to achieve their potential with support from staff who provide individual help and guidance. The objective is that pupils will be equipped with suitable skills and self-confidence for life-long learning.

Purpose of the progress monitoring inspection

Inspectors carried out this inspection under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. This inspection was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection which was carried out at the request of the Department for Education. The purpose of this inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the Independent School Standards, the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection dates

21 November 2025

20. One reporting inspector visited the school for one day.

21. Inspection activities included

- scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
- tour of the school site to review health and safety
- discussions with the head as the proprietor's representative
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils.

How are association independent schools in England inspected?

- The Department for Education is the regulator for independent schools in England.
- ISI is approved by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England, which are members of associations in membership of the Independent Schools Council.
- ISI inspections report to the Department for Education on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards, the EYFS statutory framework requirements, the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and any other relevant Standards are met.
- For more information, please visit **www.isi.net**.

Independent Schools Inspectorate

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