ISI Independent Schools Inspectorate

Progress monitoring inspection

12 May 2026

Immanuel Christian School

Rodford Tabernacle

Westerleigh Road

Westerleigh

BS37 8QG

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 7(b); EYFS 3.9

1. Leaders have revised the safeguarding policy since the previous inspection. It now reflects current statutory guidance. This policy is implemented effectively. There is a new designated safeguarding lead (DSL) in place. The DSL does not have a governance role in the school and has sufficient independence to carry out their role effectively. Safeguarding leaders are appropriately trained. Some training is undertaken by the local authority. This ensures that these leaders understand any local thresholds for safeguarding referrals and that due focus is paid to contextual safeguarding matters. Leaders liaise effectively with local safeguarding partners when required. These include children's social services.
2. Staff are suitably trained and they understand that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Their training also includes modules on the prevention of extremism and potential radicalisation. There is also an associated 'Prevent' duty risk assessment in place. Staff follow the code of conduct, which focuses on how to keep themselves and pupils safe. Staff understand the mechanisms for raising any concerns they might have around the behaviours of other staff members which give cause for concern. Leaders record any such concerns and follow these up promptly when required.
3. Staff are well supported by those with designated safeguarding responsibilities. The safeguarding culture within the school is open, supportive and focuses the attention of staff on working in the best interests of the pupils at the centre of activities. Staff understand the importance of recording any concerns about pupils. They know the correct procedures to support pupils should the need arise. Leaders act promptly when any matter is raised.
4. Safeguarding leaders understand their responsibilities relating to the safer recruitment of staff. This ensures that all the required checks are undertaken before a person commences work at the school.
5. Pupils understand the importance of staying safe when working online. There are suitable arrangements in place for the filtering of potentially harmful internet content. A new filtering system has been introduced since the previous inspection and it is regularly tested for its effectiveness. Leaders carefully monitor pupils' safe use of the internet.
6. Staff and pupils are aware of the importance of actively promoting a school culture where everyone feels valued. They recognise that some members of the community may be more vulnerable than others. Pupils openly support each other and ensure that everyone feels included as a member of the school community.
7. Leaders have made key changes in the school's safeguarding arrangements such as the appointment of a new safeguarding leader, revision of policies and the introduction of a suitable internet filtering system since the previous inspection. These actions demonstrate the improved rigour in this area and ensure that the action plan following the previous inspection has been implemented fully.
8. The school meets the Standards.

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Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

9. Leaders ensure that the safeguarding policy is 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) and 34(1)(c)

11. Since the previous inspection, leaders have strengthened their skills and knowledge, particularly in relation to the oversight of safeguarding arrangements. Associated training and the addition of an internet filtering system ensures that Standards are met to actively promote the wellbeing of pupils.

12. The school meets the Standards.

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School details

School	Immanuel Christian School
Department for Education number	803/6010
Registered charity number	1150240
Address	Immanuel Christian School Rodford Tabernacle Westerleigh Road Westerleigh Avon BS37 8QG
Phone number	01454 311710
Email address	joannagulliford@immanuelschool.org.uk
Website	www.immanuelschool.org.uk
Proprietor	Immanuel Christian School Limited
Chair	Mr Jonathan Gulliford
Headteacher	Mrs Joanna Gulliford
Age range	4 to 16
Number of pupils	60
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2025

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Information about the school

13. Immanuel Christian School Is an independent co-educational day school near the village of Westerleigh in South Gloucestershire. The school is a registered charity overseen by Immanuel Christian School Limited. The directors of the company are also the governors of the school. The school comprises two sections: juniors, which includes the early years foundation stage setting, for pupils from reception to Year 6; and seniors, for pupils in Years 7 to 11.
14. There are seven children in the early years in one Reception class. The class for Reception is situated in a dedicated area adjacent to the junior section of the school.
15. The school has identified 11 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. A small number of pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan.
16. There are no pupils for whom English is an additional language.
17. The school states that its aims are to provide an environment where God is central and the teaching is based upon a biblical understanding of the world, to help pupils develop their relationship with God, and to equip them for life. The school seeks to do this through a stable caring environment which fosters high expectations of personal conduct and helps pupils to develop understanding, and personal qualities of integrity, patience, kindness, obedience, honesty and self-control.

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.

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Inspection details

Inspection dates	12 May 2026

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

19. Inspection activities included:

- scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
- discussions with the proprietor
- 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**.

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