

Progress monitoring inspection report

13 October 2025

Perrott Hill School

North Perrott

Crewkerne

Somerset

TA18 7SL

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), 7(b), 8(a), 8(b); NMS 8.1; EYFS 3.5, 3.7, 3.9

1. Appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place and implemented to maintain effective contact with children's services and the local authority. All members of the safeguarding team 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 on concerns, including referrals to the local safeguarding partnership. 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, boarding and the school's safeguarding team, are suitably trained. The safeguarding team ensures school staff receive appropriate updates to keep them well informed. Staff receive appropriate training in 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. Staff understand the whistleblowing procedures and know what to do should they have concerns to raise.
4. Pupils can name a number of staff to whom they can turn if they are worried or concerned. Boarders can contact the independent person directly about any concerns they may have. Boarders can readily access the contact details for this independent person alongside information relating to helplines, such as Childline and the Children's Commissioner.
5. The proprietor and governors, including the designated safeguarding governor, 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 assure themselves, through regular checks, that the filtering systems are effective and that staff and pupils are able to work safely online when they are at school.
6. The governors and the safeguarding team frequently meet to review the arrangements to safeguard pupils. The governors ensure that an annual safeguarding review takes place and that leaders promptly act on any recommendations.
7. Leaders have strengthened their arrangements to oversee the effective implementation of the school's attendance and admissions procedures. They ensure that staff are trained in the importance of checking any absence during registration. Staff now check that pupils attending music lessons, sports activities and any other events are fully accounted for during morning and afternoon registration. This has led to a reduction in the use of unexplained absence codes. The smaller number of absence codes at registration is now monitored effectively by leaders and the correct codes for absence are recorded in a timely manner. Weekly registration meetings to check records take place and reports about these are provided for governors.
8. The school meets the Standards.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

ISSR paragraphs 18 and 21; NMS 19.1; EYFS 3.13, 3.14

9. Leaders reviewed the recruitment policy and procedures following the previous inspection. They now ensure that all the required checks and procedures take place, including those for prohibition from management and teaching. These are now carried out and recorded in accordance with statutory guidance.
10. The proprietor now ensures that the school operates safer recruitment procedures in line with regulatory requirements for all staff including those who work with boarders and early years pupils.
11. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

12. The school meets the requirements for providing parents with safeguarding information. Particulars of the safeguarding arrangements are published on the school's website.
13. 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); NMS 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5

14. Leaders, governors and proprietorial directors demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively. Following the previous inspection, they have acted promptly to implement a suitable action plan to address the unmet Standards.
15. The proprietorial directors have developed more rigorous procedures for reviewing the effectiveness of safeguarding and recruitment at the school. The required checks are carried out before a new member of staff takes up their employment.
16. Governors check that leaders monitor attendance effectively. Leaders regularly review registration and attendance and follow up concerns as necessary.
17. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Perrott Hill School
Department for Education number	933/6016
Address	Perrott Hill School North Perrott Crewkerne Somerset TA18 7SL
Phone number	01460 72051
Email address	reception@perrotthill.com
Website	www.perrotthill.com
Proprietor	Perrott Hill School Limited
Chair	Dr Craig Wilson
Headteacher	Mr Alex McCullough
Age range	2 – 13
Number of pupils	126
Number of boarding pupils	17
Date of previous inspection	11 to 13 March 2025

Information about the school

18. Perrott Hill School is a non-selective, independent day and boarding school in Crewkerne, Somerset. The school is part of a limited company and is administered by a proprietorial board of governors. The pre-prep section of the school caters for pupils who are 2 to 7 years old. The prep school is for pupils who are 7 to 13 years old.
19. Pupils may board from Year 3. They are accommodated in the main school building.
20. There are nine children in the Nursery arranged into one class. There are ten children in the Reception year arranged into one class.
21. The school has identified 42 pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). No pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan (EHC plan).
22. The school has identified six pupils who speak English as an additional language (EAL).
23. The school states its aims are to enable all pupils to achieve their best. It intends for pupils to successfully adapt to change and develop curious and open minds. The school endeavours to promote independence, self-knowledge, self-esteem and spiritual understanding in its pupils. Its aims are for pupils to develop the skills to make a positive contribution to others, while promoting emotional wellbeing within a positive and respectful school community.

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, National Minimum Standards for boarding schools, 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

13 October 2025

24. Two reporting inspectors visited the school for one day.

25. 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 chair of governors and members of the proprietorial body
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils
- visits to the boarding houses accompanied by pupils and staff.

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

CAP House, 9-12 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9HA

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