



PRESTFELDE



ISI Inspection 2023
Executive Summary

RATED

Excellent in all areas



PRESTFELDE

INSPECTION PROCESS

The Independent School's Inspectorate is appointed by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England and the process consists of two parts:

- An inspection of educational quality
- A regulatory compliance inspection

Evidence is collected by a visiting team of inspectors and includes:

- Observations of lesson and activities in all areas of the school
- Discussions and interviews with pupils
- Discussions with members of staff, the Chair of Governors and governors responsible for safeguarding and boarding.
- Attendance at tutor meetings, chapel assemblies and visits to the boarding houses and classrooms including learning support.
- Responses to the pre-inspection questionnaires completed by parents, staff and pupils.
- Review of all school policies and their implementation

This Executive Summary presents the key findings, along with a selection of comments.

The full ISI Inspection report is on our website:

www.prestfelde.co.uk



FROM THE HEAD

We are thrilled and delighted that following our 2023 ISI inspection, the school has been awarded the highest possible grading.

To be awarded “Excellent” in both categories of the quality of pupils’ academic and other achievements, and the quality of pupils’ personal development is something to be extremely proud of. This executive summary provides a snapshot, and I would urge you to read the full report to gain an in-depth view of the Inspection Team’s findings.

I am particularly pleased that the report reflects what we see from our children every day at Prestfelde. Pupils are achieving highly across so many areas of school life; they are happy, caring and love learning.

The dedication and expertise of our teaching staff, along with the attention to detail and professionalism of our support staff has been a key factor in achieving these grades, as well as ensuring that the School is fully compliant in all regulatory areas.

This report recognises the work of our wonderful community, whilst providing a springboard for the future. Alongside our 2029 Centenary Strategy, this will ensure that Prestfelde retains its position as a UK leading independent prep school.

Nick Robinson



The quality of the
pupils' academic and
other achievements
is excellent.



Quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements key findings:

- Pupils have an excellent attitude to their learning; they are enthusiastic and eager to participate.
- Pupils have highly effective communication skills. They listen to others attentively and express themselves fluently in the spoken word.
- Pupils make outstanding progress in the development of their knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Pupils' numeracy skills are extremely well developed and are applied consistently well across all areas of learning.



“

Pupils make excellent progress from their starting points in English and mathematics.

“

Assessment data provided by the school indicate that children in the EYFS are highly successful across all areas of learning.

“

The most able pupils attain highly. Analysis of data shows that pupils with SEND make particularly rapid progress in English, mathematics, and science, from their starting points.

“

The school is successful in its aim of fostering a love of learning. Pupils of all ages displayed great enthusiasm in their lessons.

“

Teaching makes learning interesting. It successfully challenges and supports pupils, encouraging their independence, initiative, and responsibility for improving their own learning. This results in a culture of positivity and resilience.



Throughout the school, pupils display excellent communication skills. They read fluently and clearly, answer questions articulately, and listen carefully and respectfully to each other.



Pupils' development of knowledge, skills and understanding is excellent and, in many cases, exceeds age-related expectations.



The well-planned curriculum which does not shy away from contentious issues, promotes excellent outcomes in pupils' knowledge and understanding.



The leadership and governance of the school has ensured that opportunities abound for pupils to aspire to and secure excellence in extracurricular as well as academic achievement.



As a result of the engaging learning approach of the school, pupils are empowered to question, develop high-order skills, investigate, analyse data, and draw reasonable conclusions.





The quality
of pupils' personal
development
is excellent.



Quality of pupils' personal development key findings:

- Pupils take full responsibility for their own behaviour, understanding that this builds trust and strong relationships.
- Pupils are strongly socially aware, respectful to each other and to adults, and work extremely well collaboratively.
- Pupils demonstrate excellent self-knowledge and understanding of their personal strengths and next steps in their personal development.
- Pupils of all ages show an excellent understanding of how to stay safe, including online.



“

Throughout the school, pupils' behaviour is of the highest order. A natural respect and politeness is evident in all ages, modelled effectively by staff who treat each other and pupils with the same level of courtesy.

“

Pupils are highly socially aware, and an atmosphere of mutual respect pervades throughout the school.

“

Pupils demonstrate excellent self-knowledge and understanding of their personal strengths and next steps in personal development.

“

Pupils become excellent decision makers. They increasingly develop a deeper knowledge of themselves and become more informed about their current and future needs.

“

Pupils have a deep appreciation of the non-material aspects of life. They readily cite aspects of life which are of the greatest value and which have no material cost.

“

Pupils' understanding and appreciation of the creative, dramatic and artistic dimensions of life is further enhanced by the extensive breadth of the curriculum.

“

They explained their appreciation of the Christian values of the school but emphasised that they were free to choose what to believe for themselves, exhibiting excellent developing inner strength.

“

From the earliest age, pupils actively seek opportunities to help each other. They fully understand the importance of supporting others and do so through their day-to-day actions by taking on positions of responsibility and leadership.

“

Pupils show great understanding, empathy, and tolerance to others, displaying respect for the diversity of different cultures. Pupils are fully understanding and accepting of difference and were proud, in discussions, that it was “OK to be different” in their school.

“

Pupils increasingly learn to understand themselves and are as a result very well prepared for the next stage of their learning and lives.



FOCUSED COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

No qualitative comments are made during a compliance inspection, with schools standards either met or unmet.

Prestfelde was judged to be fully compliant with all the regulatory standards for independent schools as follows:

Part 1 – Quality of education provided

Part 2 – Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

Part 3 – Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Part 4 – Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors

Part 5 – Premises of and accommodation at schools

Part 6 – Provision of information

Part 7 – Manner in which complaints are handled

Part 8 – Quality of leadership in and management of schools

In addition, the School was found to meet all the National Minimum Standards for Boarding and the relevant requirements of the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.





NEXT STEPS...

It is standard practice that schools are given ISI recommendations for improvement. Alongside our 'Excellent' and 'Fully Compliant' outcomes, inspectors have provided Prestfelde with the following improvement recommendation:

- Enable pupils to increase their independence in learning by making more decisions of their own regarding areas of study or when selecting topics of interest for research.





PRESTFELDE



PRESTFELDE SCHOOL

One of the UK's leading prep-schools for children aged 3-13

Prestfelde School
London Road
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6NZ

office@prestfelde.co.uk
www.prestfelde.co.uk
01743 245400