

Progress monitoring inspection report

6 May 2025

Ashley Manor Preparatory School

London Road
Charlton Kings
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL52 6NR

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), 15

1. Leaders ensure that safeguarding arrangements at the school promote the welfare of pupils. The safeguarding and attendance policies now reflect statutory guidance. The attendance policy is now up to date and published on the school website.
2. The proprietor ensures regular reviews of safeguarding policy and practice in line with statutory requirements. These include an annual review to the proprietorial body which is shared with the local authority. Governors visit the school as part of their monitoring procedures. They offer appropriate support and challenge to school leaders and hold them effectively to account for their work to safeguard pupils and staff.
3. The designated safeguarding leader (DSL) and deputy safeguarding leaders (DDSLs) are appropriately trained to fulfil the requirements of their role effectively, including for children in the early years. The DSL keeps detailed safeguarding records. These include any actions taken to follow up safeguarding concerns. The DSL liaises effectively with the local authority and safeguarding partners to ensure support is available to pupils and their families when needed.
4. Leaders ensure all staff are appropriately trained and understand relevant legislation and guidance, and how this is implemented through the school's safeguarding policies and procedures. Leaders regularly check staff's knowledge to ensure staff are confident in applying the school's procedures consistently. The headteacher maintains an appropriate log of low-level concerns regarding the conduct of adults in school. Staff promptly report any concerns they may have about pupils or staff. Staff understand and follow the requirements of the 'Prevent' duty.
5. Pupils know who they can speak to if they have worries or concerns. Leaders have put in place a number of ways in which pupils can share any worries they may have. Staff are suitably alert to signs of concern, including for children in the early years. Issues raised are swiftly acted on by staff so that pupils receive the appropriate support and care in a timely way.
6. The curriculum is planned effectively to include teaching pupils how to keep themselves safe in a variety of contexts. Pupils are taught how to form positive relationships and how to be safe when working online. There are suitable processes in place for filtering and monitoring of school computers. These are appropriately tested and checked.
7. Appropriate recruitment checks are carried out on adults before they begin working at the school. These checks are accurately recorded in the school's single central record of appointments.
8. Leaders maintain effective oversight of safeguarding. They analyse their records to identify any trends or risks, including risks associated with pupils' low attendance. Leaders respond to identified risks by updating their procedures or by adapting their provision to effectively meet pupils' needs.
9. Staff are fully aware of the school's attendance policy and the associated procedures and requirements of related legislation. Leaders have established suitable arrangements to promote positive attendance and ensure that absence is followed up and reported appropriately. The

attendance registers are appropriately maintained in line with statutory guidance. Leaders ensure that the local authority is informed about any prolonged absence and of attendance information relating to pupils as they are required to do. Leaders have a secure understanding of the requirements of statutory guidance to improve school attendance.

10. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

11. The safeguarding policy is published to parents on the school website.

12. The school meets the Standards.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraphs 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c), 34(2)

13. The proprietor ensures that leaders demonstrate good knowledge and skills and promote a robust safeguarding ethos in the school. They ensure attendance procedures are understood by all staff, embedded in practice and managed in line with current statutory guidance.

14. Monitoring by leaders and governors of safeguarding, including attendance procedures is effective. Governors assure themselves that the required safeguarding and attendance policies and procedures are implemented consistently. The action plan established to rectify previously unmet standards following the previous inspection has been fully implemented.

15. The leadership and management of the school fulfil their responsibilities so that the wellbeing of the pupils is actively promoted.

16. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Ashley Manor Preparatory School
Department for Education number	916/6077
Registered early years number	2771647
Registered charity number	293360
Address	Ashley Manor Preparatory School London Road Charlton Kings Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL52 6NR
Phone number	01241 388550
Email address	prepschool@ashleymanorprep.co.uk
Website	www.ashleymanorprep.co.uk
Proprietor	Alpha Schools Group Limited
Chair	Mr Ali Khan
Headteacher	Mr Paul Fathers
Age range	Birth to 11
Number of pupils	278
Number of children in the early years registered setting	101
Date of previous inspection	15 to 17 October 2024

Information about the school

17. Ashley Manor Preparatory School is an independent co-educational day school and was previously known as St Edward's Preparatory School until 2023. It was acquired by Alpha Schools Limited in 2022. The school is overseen by the proprietorial body who also function as governors. The school comprises three sections: early years, including nursery, kindergarten and pre-school; pre-prep, including Reception to Year 2; and prep, including Years 3 to 6.
18. The founding director of Alpha Schools Limited acts as chair of governors and took over this role in January 2022.
19. There are 15 children in the early years in pre-prep, comprising one Reception class. The early years setting is registered and inspected by Ofsted. This includes nursery, kindergarten and pre-school classes.
20. The school has identified 24 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). A very small proportion of pupils in the school have an education, health and care (EHC) plan.
21. English is an additional language for ten pupils.
22. The school states its aim is to provide an education that will last a lifetime and enable pupils to develop into happy, confident, resilient, compassionate and aspirational individuals. The intention is that pupils leave well prepared for a bright future and become positive and life-long contributors to society. The school has three values that underpin school life: 'believe, strive and achieve'.

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 DfE. 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

6 May 2025

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

24. 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 a governor
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils, and staff

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- 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.
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Independent Schools Inspectorate

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