

Progress monitoring inspection report

21 March 2025

Homefield Preparatory School

Western Road

Sutton

Surrey

SM1 2TE

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 3.5 and 3.7

1. The school has an appropriate safeguarding policy which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school and reflects statutory guidance. Leaders ensure that the arrangements for safeguarding the wellbeing of pupils, including children in the early years, are implemented effectively.
2. The safeguarding team, which includes a designated lead practitioner for the early years, are well trained for their roles. The safeguarding leaders have the appropriate authority within the school to carry out their role effectively.
3. Leaders ensure that staff receive regular and relevant safeguarding training. Staff know what to do if they have any concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm. They understand their responsibilities under the 'Prevent' duty and are aware of contextual safeguarding risks. Staff know how to report their concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm. Staff also understand the importance of reporting low-level concerns that relate to the behaviour of adults in school, and understand that they should report occasions when their own actions might be interpreted negatively.
4. New members of staff receive comprehensive safeguarding training before they take up their role within the school. Leaders ensure that new staff are familiar with the school's systems of reporting and recording concerns as well as the staff code of conduct.
5. Governors take part in appropriate safeguarding training. They understand their responsibilities in relation to the statutory requirements of Keeping children safe in education (KCSIE). The safeguarding governor visits the school regularly. These visits help governors assure themselves that the arrangements for safeguarding are effective.
6. Leaders take appropriate actions to safeguard pupils. Leaders understand the actions they need to take in reporting safeguarding concerns to external agencies. Safeguarding concerns are recorded methodically. Records of safeguarding include details of how concerns are followed up and leaders' rationale for their actions. Pupils are confident that they are listened to when they bring a concern to an adult and that their concerns are acted upon.
7. Pupils are taught about staying safe as part of the curriculum, including staying safe online. They are knowledgeable about the risks of sharing information and how to report inappropriate behaviour online. Appropriate systems are in place to filter and monitor the pupils' online access whilst at school, and these systems are tested on a regular basis.
8. The school meets the Standards.

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

ISSR Paragraphs 17; 18(1); 18(2)(c)(ii), (iii) and (iv); 18(3); 21(1); 21(3)(a)(ii) and (vii); EYFS 3.5, 3.7, 3.9 and 3.14

9. The relevant recruitment checks are undertaken before new employees commence work at the school. This includes checks of their medical fitness. Leaders ensure that the authenticity of references is verified. Leaders undertake appropriate internet searches for prospective employees in line with the statutory guidance set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024. If any checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) are delayed for any reason, suitable risk assessments are put in place until the checks are received.
10. Recruitment checks are accurately documented in the single central record of appointments (SCR). This record is checked regularly by leaders to ensure that it is accurate. Leaders have ensured that previously missed checks or anomalies have been corrected, and recent appointments have been logged appropriately. The SCR includes notes which explain the context of individual entries, for example where a risk assessment has been put in place.
11. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

12. The school meets the requirements for providing information relating to safeguarding to parents. Particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding are published on the school's website.
13. 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); EYFS 3.27

14. Senior leaders and governors have effectively implemented a suitable action plan following the previous inspection. Governors monitor the arrangements for safeguarding regularly and diligently, including through an appropriate annual review of safeguarding. Leaders ensure that staff receive appropriate training so that staff are confident in the arrangements to safeguard pupils and have good knowledge and understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities. Governors assure themselves that the standards are being met with regard to the recruitment processes for new staff by undertaking regular checks of the SCR and staff files.
15. Leaders record visits to the school, meetings, discussions and other interactions involving governors. Governors are actively involved in promoting the wellbeing of pupils at the school. Governors review school policies in a timely manner.
16. Leaders ensure that staff working in the early years take part in appropriate supervision meetings. These provide support and coaching and identify areas for professional development. These meetings, which are suitably recorded, ensure that staff have the knowledge and skills to promote the interests and wellbeing of the children in the setting.
17. Governors and leaders have the skills and knowledge to fulfil their responsibilities effectively and to actively promote the wellbeing of pupils, including children in the early years.
18. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Homefield Preparatory School
Department for Education number	319/6001
Registered charity number	312753
Address	Homefield Preparatory School Western Road Sutton Surrey SM1 2TE
Phone number	0208 642 0965
Email address	administration@homefieldprep.school
Website	www.homefieldprep.school
Proprietor	Homefield Preparatory School Trust Limited
Chair	Ms Meg Gardiner Boiling
Interim Headteacher	Mr Christopher Hammond
Age range	3 to 13
Number of pupils	275
Date of previous inspection	24 to 26 September 2024

Information about the school

20. Homefield Preparatory School is an independent day school for male pupils aged between three and 13. The school is a charitable trust administered by a board of governors.
21. There are 28 children in the early years comprising two Nursery classes and one Reception class.
22. The school has identified 17 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. No pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan.
23. The school has identified 133 pupils for whom English is an additional language.
24. The school states its aims are to provide a safe and happy environment in which boys both 'do well' and 'do good' through specialist teaching inspiring pupils' academic ambition and fulfilment of individual potential across the curriculum 'in head, hand and heart'. The school's five values are respect, kindness, integrity, endeavour and resilience. The school aims to emphasise research, collaboration and challenge as key elements in pupils' development of independent thinking skills and ethical character as they take their place in a diverse, cosmopolitan society.

Inspection details

Inspection date

21 March 2025

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

26. 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 deputy chair of governors and safeguarding governor
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils and staff
- scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school
- scrutiny of information published on the school's website.

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Independent Schools Inspectorate

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