

Progress monitoring inspection report

15 September 2025

Farnborough Hill

Farnborough Road

Farnborough

Hampshire

GU14 8AT

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), 11, 12, 15 and 16(a) and 16(b)

1. Leaders prioritise safeguarding and ensure that staff have effective and frequent training so that they are able to both understand and fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities. Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding complete appropriate training, which is in line with statutory requirements and reflects local arrangements. This helps leaders maintain an up-to-date understanding and management of contextual risk, including radicalisation.
2. Leaders have established an effective culture of safeguarding. Staff are vigilant and understand what to do if they have concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm, and they make reports promptly. Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding respond swiftly to any potential concern and take appropriate action, including making referrals where required. Thorough safeguarding records are maintained and kept securely.
3. Staff are clear about the process for reporting any concerns about the conduct of adults. Leaders liaise effectively with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), both to seek advice and to make appropriate referrals. A suitable record of low-level concerns relating to the behaviour of adults is also maintained by leaders, which allows any trends or patterns to be identified.
4. Pupils know who to talk to in school if they have worries or concerns. Leaders work effectively with external agencies, such as children's services, to ensure that pupils who may be at risk of harm access the support they need. Pupils learn how to keep themselves safe, including online. Leaders have put in place internet monitoring and filtering systems, which they check regularly to ensure they are effective.
5. Leaders have effectively implemented a comprehensive health and safety policy that includes a clear procedure for the control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH). A regular, recorded maintenance and servicing cycle, as well as a clear system for staff to report concerns, helps to ensure that hazards and risks are either eliminated or reduced as far as is reasonably practicable. Where hazardous materials are needed for educational or operational purposes, they are now stored securely at all times.
6. There is a suitable fire prevention strategy in place. Since the previous inspection, external agencies have audited the school's fire doors, fire compartmentalisation and fire-stopping measures. School leaders have reviewed these reports alongside a newly published conservation management plan to produce a suitable action plan for improving fire door performance across the school. Leaders have implemented an ongoing strategy to improve fire safety, including the recent installation of new kitchen equipment and safety systems as well as additional fire sensors across the site. Electrical safety, including annual testing, is in place and accurately recorded.
7. The school's attendance policy has now been updated to comply with the latest statutory guidance. It includes the full range of statutory attendance codes, which are now used correctly when registering pupils. The policy gives clear guidance to staff responsible for registering pupils and also identifies how leaders promote a culture of high attendance.

8. Leaders now implement a suitable risk assessment policy effectively. Staff are now trained to appropriately identify and manage risk. Regularly reviewed risk assessments are in place for all aspects of school life, including risky activities, teaching facilities and site security. Leaders review the school's risk assessments on a regular basis. Leaders consider pupils' safety and wellbeing as part of their strategic view of risk management.
9. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c) and 32(1)d

10. The school meets the requirements for providing safeguarding information to parents by publishing the safeguarding policy on the school's website.
11. Leaders had not ensured that all required previous inspection reports were published on the school's website. This was rectified before the end of the inspection.
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) and 34(2)

13. Leaders have effectively implemented their action plan to address the Standards that were not met at the previous inspection.
14. School leaders' action plans have been routinely and robustly scrutinised by governors since the previous inspection. Governors have carried out regular checks and on-site observations and have played an active role in improvement planning meetings. This level of oversight and collaboration has helped to ensure that all Standards are now met and that leaders now have the skills and knowledge to fulfil their roles. Governors maintain effective oversight of safeguarding procedures and ensure that the arrangements to safeguard pupils are properly implemented. School leaders with responsibility for safeguarding report to the governing body on a termly basis.
15. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Farnborough Hill
Department for Education number	850/6020
Registered charity number	1039443
Address	Farnborough Road Farnborough Hampshire GU14 8AT
Phone number	01252 545197
Email address	hmsec@farnborough-hill.org
Website	www.farnborough-hill.org
Proprietor	Farnborough Hill
Chair	Ms Helen Griffiths
Headteacher	Mrs Maria Young
Age range	11 to 18
Number of pupils	478
Date of previous inspection	4 to 6 March 2025

Information about the school

16. Farnborough Hill is an independent Catholic day school registered as a single-sex school for female pupils, located in Farnborough, Hampshire. The school is a registered charity governed by a council of trustees. A new chair of the council of trustees has been appointed since the previous inspection.
17. The school has identified 113 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). There are no pupils with an education, health and care plan (EHC plan).
18. The school has identified 35 pupils for whom English is an additional language.
19. The school states its aims are to live Christ's Gospel values joyfully and wholeheartedly, forming each individual to fulfil her potential and face the future with wisdom, strength and dignity. Leaders seek to challenge pupils to 'Be fearless. Be ambitious. Be ready. Be part of something extraordinary'.

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 that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection dates

15 September 2025

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

21. Inspection activities included:

- scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
- a tour of the school site
- discussions with the chair of governors and members of the governing body
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with 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

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