



ISI Independent
Schools
Inspectorate

Report for a Progress Monitoring Visit

Moorland School

June 2022

School's details

School College	Moorland School			
DfE number	888/6002			
Early Years registration number	EY421831			
Address	Moorland School Ribblesdale Avenue Clitheroe Lancashire BB7 2JA			
Telephone number	01200 423833			
Email address	info@moorlandschool.co.uk			
Head	Mrs Deborah Frost			
Proprietor	Mr Jonathan Harrison			
Age range	0 to 18			
Number of pupils on roll	339			
	Day pupils	265	Boarders	74
	EYFS	150	Juniors	44
	Seniors	127	Sixth Form	18
Date of visit	7 June 2022			

1. Introduction

Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 Moorland School is an independent co-educational day and boarding school situated in Clitheroe. Members of the same family have owned the school for more than 30 years. The current head took up her post in September 2021. The previous head became the principal director of the company that owns the school in 2021 and is the proprietor. An advisory volunteer board provides guidance to the proprietor on a range of legal and educational matters. The school incorporates ballet and football academies. The school includes a registered Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) setting. Boarders are accommodated in one of three houses. The school has thirty-two pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities, of whom five have an education, health and care plan. Two pupils speak English as an additional language. The school's previous inspections were a regulatory compliance inspection in June 2021 and a progress monitoring inspection in January 2022.

Purpose of the visit

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring visit at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the progress monitoring inspection of 31 January 2022.

Regulations which were the focus of the visit	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraphs 7 (safeguarding) and 8 (safeguarding of boarders); NMS 11; EYFS 3.4 and 3.9	Met
Part 3, paragraphs 9 (behaviour) and 10 (bullying); NMS 12	Met
Part 3, paragraph 11 (health and safety); NMS 6	Met
Part 5, paragraphs 23 (toilet, washing and changing facilities) and 25 (maintenance); NMS 6	Met
Part 5, paragraph 28 (water supply); NMS 5; EYFS 3.55	Met
Part 5; paragraph 30 (boarding accommodation); NMS 5	Met
Part 6; paragraph 32 (provision of information)	Met
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management); NMS 13	Met

2. Inspection findings

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8; NMS 11 and 15; EYFS 3.4 and 3.9]

Safeguarding policy

- 2.1 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.2 The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.

Safeguarding implementation

- 2.3 The school meets the standards and the requirements.
- 2.4 Arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils throughout the school, both day and boarding are implemented effectively. The school's procedures for safeguarding show suitable regard for the most recent statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE). The school has a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) for the main school and for the EYFS. All members of staff have appropriate levels of safeguarding training and have a clear understanding of safeguarding and their responsibilities, including of a suitable staff conduct, whistleblowing procedures and a suitable understanding of the potential for child-on-child abuse. Safeguarding documents show that concerns about pupils' welfare are acted upon appropriately and promptly, and records are kept secure. Pupils confirmed that they are able to raise any concern they may have, that they are listened to, and that action is taken when required. The school liaises effectively with outside agencies and other safeguarding partners when advice is required.
- 2.5 Safeguarding is correctly managed, and procedures include the scheduling of a suitable annual review by the proprietor and suitable arrangements for staff recruitment. Scrutiny of recent staff training shows that all staff, including those responsible for the boarders have received suitable training in KCSIE. All adults involved in boarding now have appropriate job descriptions; receive suitable induction training in boarding; and regular reviews of their boarding practice. All boarders are at all times, including at night, under the responsibility of an identified member of staff who is suitably qualified and experienced. Pupils feel safe and supported by staff and are confident that any concerns would be addressed promptly.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – behaviour and bullying [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 9 & 10; NMS 12]

- 2.6 The school meets the standards.
- 2.7 The school has suitable behaviour and anti-bullying policies which are implemented effectively. Records are kept electronically which allows for patterns and trends to be identified. School leaders maintain effective oversight of behaviour and bullying matters through weekly meetings.
- 2.8 School records of behavioural incidents, show that thorough investigations take place which are suitably logged and recorded. Appropriate sanctions are deployed where poor behaviour is identified. Parents are contacted and, in most cases, they are supportive of the actions taken by the school.
- 2.9 Pupils in discussions commented it is rare to encounter bullying. They know when and where to seek help and would report anything if necessary. Records of any incidents that do occur are dealt with promptly and support is given to both victim and perpetrator. All incidents are shared at the monthly safeguarding and welfare meetings of the head and proprietor.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils – hazardous substances [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 11; NMS 6]

- 2.10 The school meets the standards.
- 2.11 The school ensures that all hazardous substances are controlled adequately, in particular that all chemicals are stored securely within the science preparation room, including ensuring that flammable liquids are returned to the locked flammables cupboard promptly after use. Effective measures to monitor this by the leadership team are now in place.

Premises and accommodation – toilet and washing [ISSR Part 5, paragraph 23 and 25; NMS 6]

- 2.12 The school meets the standards.
- 2.13 The showers provided outside of boarding areas for the use of pupils aged 11 or over who receive physical education are maintained in working order and regularly checked to ensure this .

Premises and accommodation – temperature of water [ISSR Part 5, paragraph 28, EYFS 3.55]

- 2.14 The school meets the standards.
- 2.15 The temperature of the water at the point of use by pupils, in particular in the EYFS setting, does not pose a potential scalding risk to users. This is regularly checked by the leadership team.

Premises and accommodation – boarding accommodation [ISSR Part 5, paragraph 30, NMS 5]

- 2.16 The school meets the standards.
- 2.17 Suitable accommodation and suitable toilet and washing facilities are provided for boarders which are appropriately separated from the accommodation and facilities provided for boarding staff and labelled as such.

Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32]

- 2.18 The school meets the standard.
- 2.19 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. The school has made available on the website all past inspection reports and its policy for relationship and sex education is also posted there.

Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34; NMS 13]

- 2.20 The school meets the standards.
- 2.21 The proprietor and school leaders demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their roles. They fulfil their responsibilities effectively, including with regard to the monitoring of the leadership and management of boarding and the maintenance of records required under Appendix 2 of the NMS, so that all standards are consistently met and the well-being of all pupils, including boarders is actively promoted. The action plan submitted is appropriate and all elements have been implemented or realistically scheduled for completion.

3. Regulatory action points

- 3.1 For the regulations which were the focus of this visit, the school meets all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2015 and requirements of the Early Years Statutory Framework, and no further action is required as a result of this visit.

4. Summary of evidence

- 4.1 The inspectors held discussions with the head, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the proprietor. They visited different areas of the school, observed lessons and talked with groups of pupils. They scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.