



Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

A report on

Monmouth Preparatory School

Date of inspection: February 2022

by

**Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales**

About Monmouth Preparatory School

Monmouth Preparatory School is an independent boarding school for boys and girls from the age of 2 1/2 to 11 years. The preparatory school is part of the Haberdashers' Monmouth family of schools that includes Monmouth School for Boys and Monmouth School for Girls.

The school is split across two sites, 'Agincourt' where pupils from Nursery to Year 2 are taught and 'The Grange', which accommodates pupils in Year 3 to Year 6.

The school has 257 pupils on roll. A majority of pupils come from Wales, a minority from England and a very few from overseas. All pupils are from English speaking families. A few pupils are bi-lingual or multi-lingual with languages spoken at home including Welsh, Cantonese, Mandarin, Greek and Italian.

There are 40 pupils identified as having additional learning needs and receiving additional support, none have a statement of special educational needs.

The headteacher of the preparatory school oversees the day-to-day running of the school. In addition, there is an overarching principal and governing body for the Haberdasher's Monmouth group of schools.

Inspectors visited the school on 1 and 2 February 2022, an additional inspector also carried out an inspection of the premises on 2 February. During the visits, we gathered evidence from the following sources:

- discussions with the Principal and the headteacher of the preparatory school
- scrutiny of relevant documents, including policies, curriculum plans, staff appointment checks and premises and installation test certificates
- learning walks
- meeting pupils with their work
- inspection of the school premises

Main findings

Strengths

- The school site provides a rich environment for learning. Nearly all pupils have access to high quality facilities, which supports their skill development well.
- Many pupils in Agincourt make appropriate progress in their skill development. In the Grange most pupils exhibit strong recall and high standards.
- Most pupils across the school have positive attitudes towards their learning. They are excited to learn and proud of what they achieve.
- Many pupils are developing their self-esteem and show independence, confidence and the ability to problem solve and make informed decisions. They have a strong awareness of other cultures and traditions.
- Many teachers deliver well-planned lessons, both within and outside the classroom, using stimulating resources. In Agincourt there is a suitable balance between teacher and pupil led activities. Many teachers across the school provide regular feedback to pupils that moves their learning on.
- Most staff across the school promote pupil's personal and social development effectively.
- Leaders are developing clear roles and responsibilities. They are experienced in running independent schools and have established a strong culture of learning.

Recommended areas for action

- Leaders should ensure that all policies accurately reflect the practice in the preparatory school.
- Ensure that all teaching consistently challenges or supports pupils well enough to develop their skills and understanding further.

Compliance with the standards for registration

Standard 1: The quality of education provided by the school

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Standard 2: The spiritual, moral, and cultural development of pupils

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Standard 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Standard 4: The suitability of proprietors and staff

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Standard 5: Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Standard 6: The provision of information

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Standard 7: The manner in which complaints are to be handled

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard

Recommendation regarding continued registration

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003.

Inspectors' judgements on this limited inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (www.estyn.gov.wales)

The report was produced in accordance with section 163 of the Education Act 2002. The main purpose of inspection under this section is to report on compliance with the Independent Schools Standards Regulations 2003. In schools that provide non-maintained nursery education, this report also satisfies the requirements of Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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