

Progress monitoring inspection report

18 June 2026

Hurtwood House School

Holmbury St Mary

Dorking

RH5 6NU

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), 7(b), 8(a), 8(b), 16(a), 16(b); NMS 8, 9.3

1. The proprietor ensures that leaders implement safeguarding arrangements effectively. Leaders draw up a safeguarding policy which reflects statutory requirements and they make it available to parents and parents of prospective pupils on the school's website. Suitably trained leaders with responsibility for safeguarding ensure that members of staff across the school and boarding provision receive appropriate training, including at induction. The safeguarding team provides staff with regular updates and quizzes to support their knowledge of safeguarding issues and procedures. Leaders and staff use their knowledge and understanding to respond promptly to any safeguarding concerns and take suitable action. The safeguarding team maintains detailed records of safeguarding issues and how the school has responded to concerns that have arisen.
2. Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding liaise effectively with external agencies, such as the local authority, police and children's services, when appropriate. They make any required referrals to these agencies promptly. Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding respond in a timely and appropriate manner to concerns so that pupils receive the help and support they need.
3. Pupils learn how to stay safe online. Leaders ensure that the school's internet filtering and monitoring systems are robust. Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding meet regularly to review the effectiveness of the filtering and monitoring system. They act promptly in response to any instances of potentially inappropriate use of the school's internet.
4. Pupils can raise concerns with trusted adults, including their personal tutor who meets with them individually each week, boarding house staff and members of the safeguarding team.
5. The proprietor liaises closely and frequently with leaders to ensure effective oversight of the school's safeguarding arrangements. The proprietor undertakes safeguarding training and reviews the safeguarding policy at the start of each academic year to ensure that it is updated in line with statutory guidance. Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding conduct an annual audit of the school's safeguarding and child protection procedures. They report to the proprietor at regular meetings throughout the academic year. The proprietor meets frequently with pupils and staff, and reviews appropriate records and documentation, to ensure that safeguarding arrangements are implemented effectively across the school and in boarding.
6. Since the previous inspection, leaders have conducted a thorough review of all aspects of risk assessment. Leaders have updated the risk assessment policy and provided risk assessment training for all members of the senior leadership team, in addition to the training previously given to all those responsible for drawing up risk assessments. Staff now manage and mitigate risks effectively. They implement risk assessments which cover the school premises, events taking place at school, educational visits and the welfare of pupils with particular needs. A thorough process of review and evaluation, including timely reviews of educational visits, ensures the continued effectiveness of these risk assessments.

7. Relevant senior leaders now complete a risk assessment for each boarding house. This includes appropriate procedures in respect of mixed-age boarders who share the same boarding house. Leaders have implemented appropriate changes to ensure that boarders are properly supervised at all times.
8. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

9. Leaders publish particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding pupils on the school's website
10. The school meets the Standard.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraph 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c); NMS 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5

11. The proprietor now implements rigorous oversight of risk assessment procedures. Leaders have responded thoughtfully, thoroughly and assiduously to the findings at the previous inspection. Leaders have implemented changes to policy and practice to ensure effective risk assessment in all areas of school life, including boarding provision. Leaders now ensure appropriate supervision of boarders.
12. Since the previous inspection, leaders have successfully implemented their action plan to ensure that pupils' wellbeing is actively and consistently promoted.
13. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Hurtwood House School
Department for Education number	936/6564
Address	Hurtwood House School Holmbury St Mary Dorking Surrey RH5 6NU
Phone number	01483 279000
Email address	info@hurtwood.net
Website	www.hurtwoodhouse.com
Proprietor	Mr Cosmo Jackson, Mr Richard Jackson and Mrs Tina Jackson
Chair	Mr Richard Jackson
Headteacher	Mr Cosmo Jackson
Age range	15 to 19
Number of pupils	284
Number of boarding pupils	233
Date of previous inspection	21 to 23 October 2025

Information about the school

14. Hurtwood House is a co-educational day and boarding school located near Dorking in Surrey. The school is owned by the joint proprietors, one of whom is the headteacher.
15. There are nine boarding houses, five of which are for female pupils and four of which are mixed. Two boarding houses are on the school site, and the others are within a short distance of the main school site.
16. The school has identified 106 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. A small proportion of pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan.
17. The school has identified 104 pupils for whom English is an additional language.
18. The school states that its aims are to create a safe, structured environment which is focused on the needs of today's sixth-form pupil, is less formal and institutional than traditional independent schools but characterised by high expectations of academic performance and personal growth.

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, National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection dates

18 June 2026

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

20. 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 proprietor
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils
- a visit to a boarding house accompanied by pupils.

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

CAP House, 9-12 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9HA

For more information, please visit isi.net