

Progress monitoring inspection report

9 June 2025

Kirkstone House School

1–6 Main Street

Baston

Peterborough

Cambridgeshire

PE6 9PA

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 (b), 11 and 12.

1. The safeguarding policy and procedures are securely embedded in the school's practice to promote pupil wellbeing. Leaders make effective use of an external advisor who provides clear oversight for safeguarding. They take appropriate and prompt action when necessary. Members of the safeguarding team are well trained and knowledgeable about their roles. They analyse trends in pupil behaviour, effectively assess needs, and understand the risks faced by pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).
2. New staff receive effective induction and ongoing support, while established staff benefit from continual training. This training helps ensure staff are well prepared to identify safeguarding issues, including threats from radicalisation and extremism. Staff report concerns promptly and are confident in reporting concerns about adults. Contextual risks, such as those related to children missing education, are carefully considered. The safeguarding team collaborates effectively with seven local authorities and other outside agencies, understanding the thresholds for referral and when to seek advice, especially for pupils experiencing school avoidance. Caring staff provide timely help and support to these pupils.
3. Leaders have established effective communication channels for pupils to share concerns. Pupils understand how to raise issues, should they arise and know that staff will act promptly. Pupils are taught how to stay safe, including when online, through personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, computer lessons, and multi-agency days. Internet usage is effectively monitored by leaders and the safeguarding team responds promptly to any issues identified online to help keep pupils safe. Leaders use a commercial filtering system to help ensure that pupils are protected when working online in school.
4. Since the last inspection, the Health and Safety policy has been rewritten to include detailed processes through which fire safety, legionella and site health and safety are managed. The policy is published on the school's website and is effectively implemented. Risk assessments for legionella, asbestos and fire have now been completed by external companies. Leaders at all levels have engaged with the resulting action plans, with all urgent work completed to mitigate identified risks. A suitably qualified external advisor has been appointed to support leaders in checking the implementation, monitoring and review of the policy. Regular health and safety walks now take place with one of the proprietors, school leaders and the health and safety advisor and any points identified are recorded and acted on promptly.
5. A range of health and safety training courses have now been completed by staff since the last inspection, including specialist training for science staff and health and safety training for science technicians. A programme of regular testing and recording is now in place for legionella. The asbestos management plan and inspection logs are now in place. The location of any asbestos on site is now clearly labelled. New processes are in place, such as the premises audit which is regularly updated. Any faults are identified, and remedial work is completed promptly.
6. A fire risk assessment has been carried out by an appropriately qualified external company and a detailed log of actions is now maintained. All urgent items are fully completed, with the remainder

either completed or booked for completion in suitable timescales. Pupils know what to do in the event of a fire. Fire drills are regularly carried out and the signage for the assembly point has now been installed. Emergency lighting checks are carried out regularly. Fire extinguishers are regularly serviced. A new cupboard has been installed for the safe storage of equipment or materials that could potentially harm pupils.

7. The school meets the Standards.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

ISSR paragraphs 22, 25 and 27(b)

8. Leaders have renovated areas that presented a safety risk to pupils in the last inspection. For example, steps up to portacabins have been fully replaced and all rooms are now heated.

9. Leaders have repaired existing external lighting that was faulty in the last inspection. Additional external lighting has been purchased and is on site, to be installed in the summer holiday following the completion of safety work to existing trees.

10. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

11. The school meets the requirements for providing safeguarding information to parents. The safeguarding policy is regularly updated to reflect latest statutory guidance and is published on the school's website.

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), 34(2)

13. Leaders have effectively implemented their action plan since the last inspection. The proprietors have appointed an independent health and safety advisor to the advisory board to improve oversight in this area. One of the proprietors has engaged in a range of health and safety training and has made extensive use of reports from external contractors in key areas of health and safety. The resulting action plans and testing routines help demonstrate that leaders now have the required skills and knowledge to ensure that standards are met consistently.

14. The proprietors visit the school regularly and leaders have introduced new routines for testing and recording health and safety concerns to ensure that standards are met consistently.

15. The proprietors have effective oversight of the work of leaders. There is a coherent strategy for the implementation of policy, monitoring and review to ensure that leaders actively promote the wellbeing of pupils.

16. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Kirkstone House School
Department for Education number	925/6017
Address	Kirkstone House School 1–6 Main Street Baston Peterborough Cambridgeshire PE6 9PA
Phone number	01778 560350
Email address	info@kirkstonehouseschool.co.uk
Website	www.kirkstonehouseschool.co.uk
Proprietor	Mrs Beryl Wyman, Mr Edward George Wyman and Mr John William Robert Wyman
Headteacher	Mrs Corrine Jones
Age range	6 to 17
Number of pupils	119
Date of previous inspection	3 to 5 December 2024

Information about the school

17. Kirkstone House School is a co-educational day school situated just outside Peterborough. The school is overseen by the three proprietors, with an advisor providing support and guidance for safeguarding. The school comprises two sections: lower school, for pupils aged from 6 to 11 years; and senior school, for pupils aged from 11 to 17 years.
18. The school caters mainly for pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). There are 82 pupils in the school who have an education, health and care (EHC) plan.
19. No pupils speak English as an additional language.
20. The school states its aims are to provide pupils with an education within a caring family environment which promotes kindness, tolerance and support from staff who know them well. Emphasis is placed on building high self-esteem and emotional resilience, in order that pupils achieve to the best of their ability and are prepared for the next stage of their life. The school's ethos is that 'the individual counts'.

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 DfE. The purpose of this inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the Independent School Standards requirements and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection dates

9 June 2025

21. One reporting inspector visited the school for one day.

22. Inspection activities included:

- scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
- tour of the school site to see health and safety specific updates since the last inspection
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils.

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Independent Schools Inspectorate

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