

Progress monitoring inspection report

20 October 2025

New College School

Savile Road

Oxford

Oxfordshire

OX1 3UA

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), 11, 12, 15 and 16

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 effectively. Leaders with responsibility for safeguarding complete appropriate training, which is in line with statutory requirements and reflects local arrangements. Leaders and staff have a clear understanding of contextual safeguarding risks, including the risks of radicalisation.
2. Leaders maintain thorough safeguarding records which are kept securely. Since the previous inspection, leaders have introduced a new recording system. The safeguarding team meets regularly to review concerns. There is a clear record of the rationale behind leaders' decision-making in relation to the actions they take in following up safeguarding concerns. Leaders take appropriate action, including making referrals to the local authority safeguarding partners where required.
3. 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. Staff report all concerns promptly.
4. Staff are clear about the process for reporting any concerns they may have about the conduct of adults. Leaders liaise effectively with the local authority both to seek advice and to make appropriate referrals. A suitable record of low-level concerns is also maintained by leaders, which allows any trends or patterns to be identified and followed up appropriately.
5. Pupils know who to talk to in school if they have worries or concerns. They 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.
6. The school's attendance policy has been updated to comply with the latest statutory guidance. The full range of statutory attendance codes is now used correctly when registering pupils. Leaders liaise with parents and, where necessary, the local authority whenever a pupil's attendance data falls below acceptable thresholds or when a child is missing from education.
7. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

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

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

11. Leaders have effectively implemented their action plan to address the Standards, which were not met at the previous inspection.
12. School leaders' actions are routinely and robustly scrutinised by governors. Governors carry out regular checks and observations on site and play an active role in improvement planning. This level of oversight and collaboration ensures that Standards are now met.
13. Governors maintain effective oversight of safeguarding procedures and ensure that the arrangements to safeguard pupils are properly implemented.
14. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	New College School
Department for Education number	931/6065
Registered charity number	1142701
Address	New College School 2 Savile Road Oxford Oxfordshire OX1 3UA
Phone number	01865 285560
Email address	office@newcollegeschool.org
Website	www.newcollegeschool.org
Proprietor	New College, Oxford
Chair	Mr Miles Young
Headteacher	Dr Matthew Jenkinson
Age range	4 to 13
Number of pupils	147
Date of previous inspection	28 to 30 January 2025

Information about the school

15. New College School is an independent day school, registered as a school for male pupils. It was founded in 1379, originally to provide education for the choristers of New College, Oxford, and has increased its numbers over the centuries. The school moved to its present site in 1903. The school is owned by New College, which delegates responsibility for the oversight and administration of the school to a governing committee. This committee consists of fellows and external members of the college and is chaired by its Warden.
16. The school consists of a pre-prep department for pupils aged four to seven, which includes an early years foundation stage (EYFS), and a prep department for pupils aged seven to thirteen. The school educates the choristers for New College.
17. The school has identified 33 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). There are no pupils in the school who have an education, health and care plan (EHC plan).
18. The school has identified nine pupils as speaking English as an additional language.
19. The school states that its aims are to uphold the founding principles of promoting 'godliness and the studies of good learning'; to continue the tradition of musical excellence; and promote spiritual and moral awareness together with the values of courtesy, mutual respect and tolerance. It seeks to foster intellectual curiosity and a lifelong enjoyment of learning, and to extend pupils' understanding and commitment to the wider local, national and international community.

Purpose of the progress monitoring inspection

Inspectors carried out this inspection under sections 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

20 October 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
- discussions with members of the governing body
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils and staff
- observation of attendance registration.

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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