ISI Independent Schools Inspectorate

Progress monitoring inspection report

11 February 2025

Henley-in-Arden Montessori Primary School

Memorial Hall

Station Road

Henley-in-Arden

Warwickshire

B95 5JP

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) and 7(b); EYFS Safeguarding and welfare requirements 3.5, 3.7 and 3.9

1. The school has an appropriate safeguarding policy which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school and reflects statutory guidance.
2. The arrangements for safeguarding the wellbeing of pupils, including children in the early years, are implemented effectively.
3. There is an appropriate team of safeguarding leaders which includes a designated lead practitioner for the early years. Members of the safeguarding team undertake suitably regular training at the appropriate level, as does the headteacher who is also the proprietor. The safeguarding leaders have the appropriate authority within the school and the independence to carry out their role effectively.
4. All staff receive regular and appropriate safeguarding training so that they are aware of the latest statutory guidance. They understand their responsibilities under the 'Prevent' duty. New members of staff experience a rigorous process of induction. This ensures that new staff are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities from the start of their employment, as well as their obligations under the school's code of conduct. The safeguarding team regularly checks that staff know how to recognise the signs of potential abuse, including child-on-child abuse. Staff know how to report their concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm. Staff also understand the importance of reporting low-level concerns that relate to the behaviour of adults in school.
5. Leaders understand the actions they need to take in reporting safeguarding concerns to external agencies. Leaders take appropriate actions to safeguard pupils. Safeguarding concerns are recorded methodically. Pupils are confident that they are listened to when they bring a concern to an adult and that their concerns are acted upon. Records of safeguarding include details of how concerns are followed up and leaders' rationale for their actions.
6. Pupils are taught about staying safe as part of the curriculum, including staying safe online. They are knowledgeable about the risks of sharing information and how to report inappropriate behaviour online. Appropriate systems are in place to filter and monitor the pupils' online access whilst at school, and these systems are tested on a regular basis.
7. The proprietor monitors the arrangements for safeguarding regularly, including through an appropriate annual review of safeguarding.
8. The relevant recruitment checks are undertaken before new employees commence work at the school. Leaders ensure that references contain information about the candidate's suitability to work with children. Leaders also ensure that the authenticity of references is verified. Leaders undertake appropriate internet searches for prospective employees in line with the statutory guidance set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024. Checks are appropriately documented in the single central record of appointments. A small number of recording errors were identified and promptly corrected during the inspection.
9. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

10. 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.

11. The school meets the Standards.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraphs 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)

12. The proprietor and school leaders demonstrate that they have the skills and knowledge to fulfil their responsibilities effectively and to actively promote the wellbeing of pupils, including children in the early years. Leaders ensure that staff receive appropriate training so that staff are confident in the arrangements to safeguard pupils and have good knowledge and understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities.

13. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Henley-in-Arden Montessori Primary School
Department for Education number	937/6106
Address	Memorial Hall Station Road Henley-in-Arden Warwickshire B95 5JP
Phone number	01564 795722
Email address	contact@henleymontessori.co.uk
Website	www.henleymontessori.co.uk
Proprietor	Mrs Helen Everley
Headteacher	Mrs Helen Everley
Age range	4 to 11
Number of pupils	27
Date of previous inspection	21 May 2024

Information about the school

15. Henley-in-Arden Montessori Primary School is an independent co-educational school in Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, for pupils aged between 4 and 11. It shares the site with Merrydays Montessori Nursery, which is inspected separately. The school is owned by a proprietor, who is also the principal.
16. There is a group of children in the early years who are taught alongside pupils in Key Stage 1.
17. The school has identified a small number of pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. No pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan.
18. The school has identified six pupils for whom English is an additional language.
19. The school states its aims are to successfully implement the philosophy, practices and curriculum of Maria Montessori through a holistic approach to education and enable children to learn at their own pace. The school strives for pupils to feel safe, secure, and confident; to become resourceful individuals and fulfil their potential within a nurturing environment, skilfully guided and supported by staff. It sets out to ensure pupils have time to reflect and be creative to promote socialisation, respect and to enable them to live in harmony with others in the small society of their school. It aspires to establish positive relationships between peers, younger pupils and adults to create an effective partnership within the whole school community.

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 and Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection date	11 February 2025

20. One reporting inspector 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 the proprietor/headteacher
- discussions with school safeguarding leaders and a review of safeguarding logs
- discussions with pupils and staff.

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

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