



St. Margaret's
Preparatory School



ISI INSPECTION
SUMMARY 2024



A letter from the Head

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am delighted to share with you the report from our recent ISI inspection in October 2024. This is our first inspection under the new framework and it reads fantastically well. We have met all the standards set out by the inspectorate, and they have praised all aspects of our school.

We are especially thrilled with the way in which the spirit of St Margaret's shines through in the extracts highlighted in this booklet: pupils are thriving and achieving well in our home-from-home setting, developing into confident, capable individuals. The inspectors saw and commented on how central pupil wellbeing is to all we do in school, from our positive relationships or our rigorous safeguarding ethos.

My thanks go to all who supported the inspection, from the pupils who spoke so eloquently about our school to the teachers and support staff who worked tirelessly to ensure we were ready, and finally to you, our families, for the many positive, supportive comments you made in the confidential surveys.

Under the new framework, no explicit judgements were given.

It was a genuine team effort with every part of our school family playing their part. I am enormously proud of this result, and thank you all for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

G. Moss



AN OVERVIEW

An inspection is a thorough process carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) and overseen by the Department for Education (DfE), typically occurring every three years.

In October 2024, St Margaret's Prep experienced a comprehensive inspection by the ISI using the newly implemented Framework 23, which was introduced in September 2023.

Importantly, this new framework no longer provides overall judgments or grades from the ISI. Instead, the inspection report is organised around five key areas, where inspectors carefully outline commendations for 'Standards Met' and offer insightful feedback, addressing areas needing improvement where standards are not yet fulfilled.

We are thrilled to announce that St Margaret's achieved the best possible rating of 'Standards Met' in all five areas. This accomplishment reflects the hard work and commitment of our exceptional team.



WHAT WE'RE DOING WELL...

"Pupils are engaged and enjoy learning."



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Pupils, including those with high prior attainment, are enabled to explore concepts at appropriate depth and with suitable levels of support or independence. Well-chosen activities are designed to support pupils' motivation and perseverance.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Effective use of technology such as laptops and table top devices encourage independence and application of intellectual effort, allowing pupils to work at a level suitable for their ability.



CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY

Teachers incorporate democratic choice into as many school routines as possible, so pupils are enabled to have their voices included in decision-making within the school. In this way they become familiar with the democratic process in action.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR

The school provides a wide range of activities which supplement the taught curriculum. The range of clubs and activities helps pupils develop their understanding and skills in different areas.

"Pupils have a thorough appreciation of the values which underpin British society and how they are applied to their everyday lives."



The extent to which we meet the standards

	Not met	Met
Standards relating to leadership and management, and governance		✓
Standards relating to the quality of education, training and recreation		✓
Standards relating to pupils' physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing		✓
Standards relating to pupils' social education and contribution to society		✓
Standards relating to safeguarding		✓



SUMMARY OF INSPECTION

Teachers challenge pupils to think and reason in high quality discussions based on good subject knowledge.

Pupils behave well and are polite and kind. Leaders communicate the school's behaviour code and its values effectively.

Pupils develop self-confidence and self-esteem and staff and pupils utilise the school saying, 'It's cool to be me!'.

Children are confident to engage in conversation and develop secure language skills.

Teachers through the school ensure pupils have many opportunities to contribute to class discussion and perform in front of others.

The school develops pupils' sense of social responsibility well. Children in the early years learn that they have a responsibility towards their community.