

ISI Focused Compliance and Educational Quality Inspection Report

The Croft Preparatory School was inspected by ISI from 28 February to 2 March 2023.

I am very proud of the staff here for all their hard work and effort, as we managed to showcase the very best aspects of The Croft for the inspectors to gain the understanding of what makes it such a special place. Of course, we could not do this without the children, together with every member of the school community, including parents, Governors and staff, which together creates the unique culture at The Croft.

The outcome grades for the Educational Quality Inspection (EQI) are as follows:

- The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is EXCELLENT
- The quality of the pupils' personal development is **EXCELLENT**

Key findings of the inspection under each aspect are outlined as the following:

Academic and other achievements:

- Pupils demonstrate outstanding attitudes to learning; they are willing to engage and want to work hard.
- Pupils are very competent communicators; they are active listeners and articulate speakers.
- Pupils have excellent collaborative skills and show willingness to take initiative when given the opportunity.
- Pupils have high levels of knowledge and skills across all areas of learning.

Personal development:

- Pupils demonstrate high levels of resilience and willingness to learn from their mistakes.
- Pupils have strong moral values and awareness of right and wrong.
- Pupils show excellent social skills which enable the achievement of common goals.
- Pupils are quietly self-confident and are strongly aware of their own self-worth.

These findings are a fantastic achievement for everybody involved and we are delighted with the judgements and statements contained in this report.

The **Regulatory Compliance Inspection (RCI)** aspect does not receive graded judgements, only that the standard is either 'met' or 'not met'. The report states that the majority of these elements have been met, however, the report has provided some action points relating to Welfare, Health and Safety. One is regarding prohibition from teaching checks on peripatetic staff, which all were completed during the inspection. The other relates to second references being obtained prior to commencement of employment. Action points have all been completed and the judgement from ISI remains, only as this had not been the case during commencement of the inspection. Because of these, the standard in Part 3 had not been met, therefore this automatically triggers the final action point relating to Leadership and Management, and relates only to the specific aspects above. Safeguarding and Welfare, Health and Safety are of paramount importance to everyone at The Croft and all other aspects within this element were considered 'best practice'. We are currently awaiting confirmation from ISI that all aspects of the RCI now meet the standards.

We are proud that the overall impression from the inspectorate was of the outstanding experiences our pupils receive and that they felt this was the message that should be conveyed. The education provided is excellent and we continue to enable children to grow and thrive at The Croft.

Marcus Cook Headmaster