



**Progress Monitoring Inspection Report**

**The American School in England**

**April 2024**

## School's details

<b>School</b>	TASIS The American School in England			
<b>DfE number</b>	936/6532			
<b>Address</b>	TASIS The American School in England Coldharbour Lane Thorpe TW20 8TE			
<b>Telephone number</b>	01932 565252			
<b>Email address</b>	bnixon@tasisengland.org			
<b>Head</b>	Mr Bryan Nixon			
<b>Chair of governors</b>	Mr David King			
<b>Proprietor</b>	TASIS The American School in England Ltd			
<b>Age range</b>	3 to 18			
<b>Number of pupils on roll</b>	646			
	<b>Day pupils</b>	417	<b>Boarders</b>	229
	<b>Lower School</b>	75	<b>Middle School</b>	136
	<b>Upper School</b>		435	
<b>Date of inspection</b>	26 April 2024			

## 1. Introduction

### Characteristics of the school

- 1.1 TESIS, The American School in England, is a co-educational day and boarding school. It is part of the TESIS Foundation, which originated as The American School in Switzerland and now operates four schools in England, Switzerland, Portugal and Puerto Rico. It is governed by an international board of directors. The school is divided into three sections: the lower school for pupils aged three to ten; the middle school for pupils aged ten to fourteen; and the upper school for pupils aged fourteen to eighteen. The school has one hundred and twenty-eight pupils who require support for special educational needs and/or disabilities. None has an education, health and care plan. Two hundred and sixty-three pupils speak English as an additional language. The school's previous inspection was a routine inspection in September 2023.

### Purpose of the inspection

- 1.2 This was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) to check that the school has fully implemented the action plan submitted following the routine inspection on 26 to 28 September 2023. The inspection focused on the school's compliance with the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (ISSRs) and the National Minimum Standards for Boarding 2022.

Regulations which were the focus of the inspection	Team judgements
Part 3, paragraphs 7 (safeguarding) and 8 (safeguarding of boarders); NMS 8	<b>Met</b>
Part 3, paragraph 14 (supervision); NMS 20	<b>Met</b>
Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c) (provision of information)	<b>Met</b>
Part 8, paragraph 34 (leadership and management); NMS 2	<b>Met</b>

## 2. Inspection findings

### **Welfare, health and safety of pupils – safeguarding and safeguarding of boarders [ISSR Part 3, paragraphs 7 and 8; NMS 8]**

#### **Safeguarding policy**

- 2.1 The school meets the requirements.
- 2.2 The school has an appropriate policy for safeguarding which provides suitable arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.

#### **Safeguarding implementation**

- 2.3 The school meets the standards.
- 2.4 The safeguarding arrangements are implemented effectively to safeguard the welfare of all pupils, including boarders.
- 2.5 Designated safeguarding leaders complete appropriate training and hold positions within the school's senior leadership team. They are suitably knowledgeable and share information, as required, within the team and with other members of staff. Discussions with staff confirm there is suitable safeguarding training, including induction training. As a result, staff understand how to report any concerns about adults working in the school and how to respond appropriately if a pupil makes a safeguarding disclosure. Low-level concerns about adults working in the school and allegations against staff are managed appropriately. Any referrals to the local authority or children's services are made promptly.
- 2.6 Governors receive regular safeguarding training. This enables them to exercise effective oversight of the school's safeguarding arrangements. Governors are properly informed about and able to respond appropriately to safeguarding issues as a result of weekly updates from the safeguarding leads, who also attend quarterly board meetings to share the safeguarding update; discussion at the quarterly governing body meetings; receipt of an annual safeguarding report; and yearly review of the safeguarding policy. They visit the school regularly to observe lessons and ensure appropriate arrangements operate within the boarding houses, including at night. Governors confirm that pupils' wellbeing is promoted effectively through discussions with pupils, including boarders. Senior pupils are invited to speak regularly at governing body committee meetings. Senior leaders ensure that all pupils, including boarders, have trusted adults who provide effective support and guidance.
- 2.7 During the inspection, pupils confirmed that they can raise concerns, anonymously if they wish, and that staff respond promptly and supportively. Records of safeguarding further confirm this, and that staff take appropriate follow-up action where necessary. Pupils have many opportunities to discuss contemporary issues, and report that the school successfully maintains a culture of tolerance and mutual respect. Filtering and monitoring systems ensure safe access to technology and pupils receive effective education in online safety. They report that they feel secure in school.
- 2.8 There are rigorous processes to ensure suitable adults are appointed to work with pupils. Safer recruitment checks are completed, as required, for all staff, volunteers and governors.

### **Welfare, health and safety of pupils – supervision of pupils [ISSR Part 3, paragraph 14; NMS 20]**

- 2.9 The school meets the standards.

- 2.10 Pupils are appropriately supervised through the effective deployment of staff, including in the boarding houses. Leaders ensure at least one member of staff is on overnight duty in each boarding house. Boarders confirmed that a member of staff is always available to meet boarders' needs during the night.

### **Provision of information [ISSR Part 6, paragraph 32(1)(c)]**

- 2.11 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.

### **Quality of leadership and management [ISSR Part 8, paragraph 34; NMS 2]**

- 2.12 The school meets the standards.
- 2.13 Successful implementation of the school's action plan means that proprietors ensure school leaders, including those with specific responsibilities for supervision and management of boarding, demonstrate good skills and knowledge, and fulfil their responsibilities effectively, so that the independent school standards are consistently met, and the wellbeing of the pupils is actively promoted. The action plan required by the previous inspection has been fully implemented.

### **3. Regulatory action points**

- 3.1 For the regulations which were the focus of this inspection, the school meets all of the requirements of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2022, and no further action is required as a result of this inspection.

## **4. Summary of evidence**

- 4.1 The inspector held discussions with the head, senior leaders and other members of staff and met with the chair of governors. He visited different areas of the school and talked with groups of pupils. He scrutinised a range of documentation, records and policies.