



More House School Boarding and Welfare

Inspection Report **Ofsted 2024**

"The residential special school provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the school contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people."

More House School continues to justify the highest possible grading, in all areas

On 10th-12th December 2024, inspectors from Ofsted visited More House for a full inspection of our provision for boarders. The two experienced inspectors, from Ofsted's Social Care department, inspected the residential arrangements for boarders in the school, as well as examining health & safety, safeguarding, staffing and facilities across the whole school.

We are extremely proud of our school, and especially of the experience enjoyed by our boarders. We are delighted that the inspectors highlight our *'strong sense of community'*, characterised by pupils' *'respectful and strong relationships with staff and each other'*. The inspection team judged that our pupils *'consistently make excellent progress particularly with their education and independence'*, and that *'staff live and breathe the ethos'* of our school, and are highly invested in the progress of the pupils, knowing our pupils incredibly well.

In terms of the single word judgements, still used by Ofsted during the current academic year and by Ofsted's Social Care teams, the inspection report confirms that More House School continues to justify the highest possible grading, in each element of the inspection:

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people – Outstanding

How well children and young people are helped and protected - Outstanding

The effectiveness of leaders and managers - Outstanding

We are, of course, thrilled by the findings of this external audit on behalf of the Department for Education, and recognise the role of everyone in our More House School community – pupils, staff, governors, and pupils' family-members – in building such an empowering and transformative environment for our boys.

To read the full report, visit our school website:
www.morehouseschool.co.uk/information/inspection-reports



**Overall experiences and progress
of children and young people.**

"There is a strong sense of community at the provision."

"New pupils are warmly welcomed."



"The residential accommodation is of a high standard."

"Leaders put great thought into the shared spaces for pupils. They have reorganised the accommodation to meet the needs and dynamics of the pupils."

"Pupils have rich and varied experiences."

"Pupils talk enthusiastically about the activities available to them."





"Pupils consistently make excellent progress particularly with their education and independence."

"Staff live and breathe the ethos of the setting and are highly invested in the progress of the pupils."



"The residential experience is key in enhancing the pupils' overall progress."

"They are highly engaged in school."



*“Pupils’ confidence continues to grow,
and they are thriving as a result.”*

“Staff celebrate the pupils’ uniqueness.”

*“Pupils can be themselves and explore their own
identities in a safe and non-judgemental environment.”*



How well children and young people are helped and protected

“Leaders’ oversight of safeguarding is strong.”

“The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) is exceptional.”

“Her dynamism and enthusiasm are pivotal to the creation of the provision’s excellent safeguarding culture.”

“The DSL has broadened the scope of safeguarding to tackle issues at an early stage, empowering staff to help pupils early on.”



“Staff are acutely aware of the risks for pupils online. There are highly effective filtering and monitoring systems in place to reduce risks to pupils.”

“Pupils are highly confident in raising concerns.”

“Staff have a positive and proactive approach to behaviour.”



The effectiveness of leaders and managers

“The head of care works closely with her deputies to have excellent oversight of the residential provision.”

Boarding leaders *“are visible figures in the residential provision resulting in a strong understanding of its strengths and weaknesses. They are focused on ensuring that the pupils receive the best care and support possible.”*



“Pupils are meaningfully involved in the running of the residential provision.”

“When pupils raise areas for improvement, they have full faith that the leadership team will respond promptly.”



“The pupils’ plans are clear and effective. They include the voice of the pupil throughout.”

“Staff know the pupils incredibly well and understand the progress that they have made.”

“Staff celebrate pupils’ successes with awards linked to the school’s three shared values of kindness, spirit and responsibility linked to the strongly embedded ethos.”



To the Boarders at More House School

Dear boarding pupils at More House School,

We enjoyed a lovely visit to the school. When we visited it was the last week before the Christmas holidays. We were privileged to be invited to your Christmas dinner and it was great to see everyone having fun in their Christmas jumpers!!

It was fantastic to meet with the boarding council and hear how you all work together to have your say in how the boarding is run.

We saw there is a fantastic range of activities for you all to do in the evenings and you told us about the fun you have at weekends. We hope you had a wonderful time at the Panto and at Winter Wonderland.

We felt that there is an excellent community spirit at the school, that you look out for each other and respect each other's differences.

The staff work really hard to help you start at the boarding and have a great time when you stay. The staff are insightful into your individual needs and are well trained to help you develop your independence and develop your confidence.

We think that Ms Rositano, Mr Webb and Miss Roberts make an excellent leadership team. They work hard to make sure boarding is well run and are always looking to make things better for you. We heard that Miss Roberts is great at welcoming new children to the school and Mr Webb is highly reliable and always has time for you.

Overall, we think the boarding at More House School is Outstanding.

Thank you for taking the time to read the letter,
Ofsted Inspectors.