



Education Committee – Significant Strengths visits 2024-25

This academic year, the IAPS Education Committee has been holding its meetings at schools with an ISI Significant Strength, hearing from leaders, staff and pupils about how the school carries out its work in the identified area. Subsequent to each committee meeting, the Chair has recorded a podcast with the school to explore the topic for Members.

Autumn term 2024: St Neot's Prep School

Significant Strength: *Pupil Behaviour*

St Neot's is a co-ed 2-13 school in Hampshire, led by Jonathan Slot. Its April 2024 inspection identified "*The high standards of behaviour of the pupils, which a consequence of [the school's] culture and values, are a significant strength of the school*" and this was evident to the Committee during its visit. Family dining, for example, was characterised by the care with which older pupils looked after younger, and St Neot's senior staff described the impact of their revised behaviour policy and implementation of new school values. These changes were evidence-driven and the involvement of the staff and children in all aspects of this work built a positive culture of behaviour from the outset.

If you're keen to hear in detail how this was achieved, please listen to the podcast episode:

<https://shorturl.at/nkGX0>



Spring term 2025: Ravenscourt Park Preparatory School

Significant Strength: *Embedding Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in School Culture*

RPPS is a co-ed 4-11 school, led by Carl Howes. It is a vibrant, inclusive independent school where EDI is woven into the fabric of daily life. The inspection in Autumn 2024 showed that '*Leaders and managers are highly adept at promoting equality, diversity and inclusion.*' As a result, pupils exhibit high levels of wellbeing and enjoy their school experience. The leaders in the school have prioritised and encouraged pupils' respect for difference in others, and they have an exceptionally high-quality understanding of and respect towards people with different backgrounds, faiths and lifestyles, including those with protected characteristics. The children were well rounded and showed respect to all when we spent time in their setting, as well as engaging fully in the diverse curriculum.

If you're keen to hear in detail how this was achieved, please listen to the podcast episode:

<https://shorturl.at/bggXT>

Summer term 2025: Rosemead Preparatory School

Significant Strength: *Personalised Academic Pathways*

Rosemead is a co-ed 2-11 London school, led by Graeme McCafferty that offers a supportive education that tailors academic experiences to each child. The ISI inspection in November 2023 highlighted '*A highly customised approach to every pupil's academic progress is a significant strength of the school*'. With bespoke learning programmes, targeted support, and a rich curriculum, the school ensures all pupils thrive. Its "Roots of Rosemead" values system and commitment to inclusivity and innovation underpin its success. The children onsite were eloquent and proud of their achievements irrespective of their starting points. Senior leaders are adept at tracking progress holistically and with clear honest feedback to parents at its heart.

If you're keen to hear in detail how this was achieved, please listen to the podcast episode:

<https://shorturl.at/JRQwW>



With thanks to the Heads and their schools for their time and willingness to share their practice.