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Newton
PREP



Welcome

We were delighted to welcome a team of ISI inspectors to our school last term. Whilst there is always some anxiety when ‘the inspector calls’ we seized the opportunity to show the inspection team what this school is all about.

The inspection focused on both regulatory compliance and on educational quality. The inspectors gathered evidence so that they could make two main judgements: one about pupils’ achievements and the other about pupils’ personal development. They were with us for four days, observing all aspects of school life. They interviewed children, staff and members of the School Council, and pupils and parents were asked to complete questionnaires. The process was probing, rigorous and thorough.

I am thrilled that they judged us as ‘excellent’ in both areas (there is no higher category than that). The ISI report reflects a great deal of hard work since the last full inspection in 2013, including all of the challenges of the two turbulent pandemic years, of course.

I know that the Newton Prep community is very special. I am enormously proud to be leading such a talented, committed group of staff who constantly seek to provide high quality educational experiences for our wonderful children.

You can read the report in full at newtonprepschool.co.uk/inspection

I hope you enjoy reading what the inspectors had to say about us in the following pages.

Alison Fleming

ALISON FLEMING
HEADMISTRESS

“Pupils of all ages show highly positive attitudes to their learning. They are eager participants in their lessons”



“Pupils display notable levels of self-knowledge and self-discipline which promotes their personal development.”

Newton Prep’s integrated inspection

As part of the integrated Regulatory Compliance and Educational Quality Inspection in March 2022 the inspectors assessed the following areas of school life:

Quality of our pupils’ academic and other achievements

Excellent

Quality of our pupils’ personal development

Excellent

Compliance with regulatory standards

Fully compliant

- Quality of education provided
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- Welfare, health and safety of pupils
- Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors
- Premises and accommodation at schools
- Provision of information
- Manner in which complaints are handled
- Quality of leadership in and management of schools



Key Findings

The educational quality inspection reports on the quality of the school's work. It focuses on the two key outcomes:

- The achievement of the pupils, including their academic development and
- The personal development of the pupils.

The headline judgements apply one of the ISI descriptors 'excellent', 'good' 'sound' or 'unsatisfactory'.

Where necessary, National Curriculum nomenclature is used to refer to year groups in the school.

The school meets the standards in the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, and relevant requirements of the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation stage, and associated requirements, and **no further action is required as a result of this inspection.**

- **The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent.**
- Pupils have highly developed communication skills and apply them well across the curriculum.
- Pupils of all abilities achieve notable standards across the curriculum.
- Pupils consistently exhibit high rates of progress.
- Pupils of all ages show highly positive attitudes to their learning. They are eager participants in their lessons and work very effectively in groups.
- The quality of the pupils' personal development is excellent.
- Pupils display notable levels of self-knowledge and self-discipline which promotes their personal development.
- Pupils exude a mature self-confidence.
- Pupils make an excellent contribution to others, to the school and to the community, by successfully fulfilling a range of additional responsibilities.
- Pupils demonstrate a highly developed moral understanding, displaying excellent behaviour.
- Pupils' respect for diversity and inclusion is outstanding.

“Pupils demonstrate a highly developed moral understanding, displaying excellent behaviour.”



The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent

- In standardised tests and examinations, including the EYFS Profile, **attainment is far above that of the national average** for maintained schools.
- There is no discernible difference in rate of progress between male and female pupils.
- **Pupils' attitudes to learning are overwhelmingly positive.**
- Pupils work exceedingly well collaboratively, and this is something that is embedded throughout the school day.
- **The pupils' wider achievements are excellent.**
- The school choirs regularly perform with success in high profile events at venues such as Southwark or Winchester Cathedral.
- The opportunities offered in the school's comprehensive co-curricular programme play a significant part in this success.
- Pupils' communication skills are excellent and they speak confidently and fluently, exhibiting a wide range of vocabulary for their age.
- **Pupils develop sophisticated writing skills** and employ these across the curriculum; pupils' writing skills develop as a result of all staff's expectations of excellence in literacy.
- Pupils display an excellent affinity with number.
- Pupils' knowledge and understanding develops rapidly, facilitated by the leaders' focus on 'Assessment for Learning' techniques.
- **Pupils are highly effective in applying their knowledge across the curriculum.**
- The school is successful in meeting its aim to provide a forward-thinking educational experience that equips the children for life in the future.
- Pupils' competencies are developed as a result of **skilful questioning and effective lesson structuring by their teachers.**
- Pupils are confident and highly adept users of information and communication technology (ICT) overall.

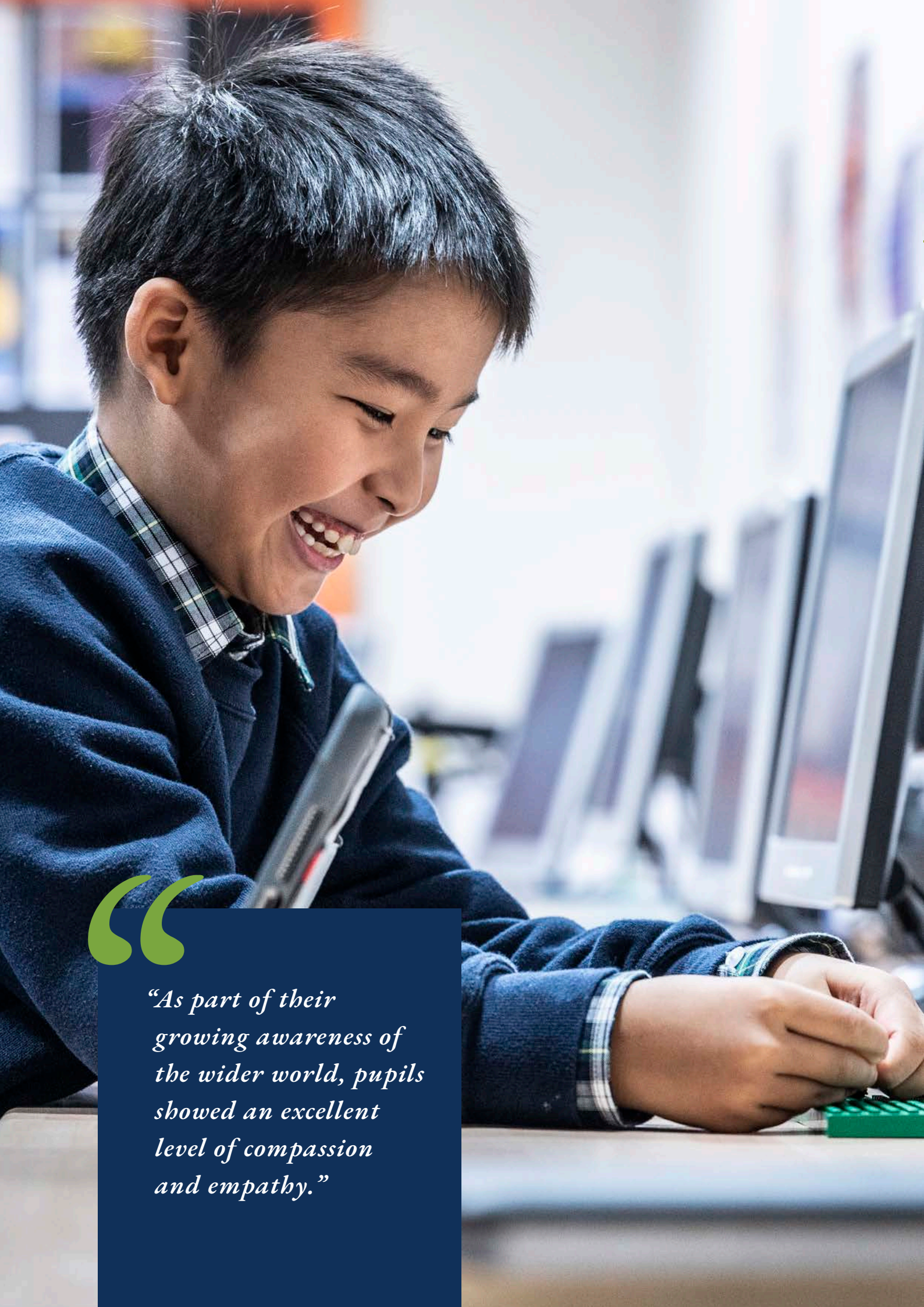
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“The opportunities offered in the school’s comprehensive co-curricular programme play a significant part in this success.”



The quality of our pupils' personal development is excellent

- **Pupils' respect for diversity and understanding and appreciation of different cultures are outstanding.** Pupils were fierce defenders of equality and conveyed an understanding of the dangers of discrimination and the relevance of protected characteristics in a manner well beyond their years.
- Pupils exhibited a strong understanding of neurodiversity.
- In lessons and in their movement around the school, **pupil behaviour is excellent.**
- Pupils demonstrate a **comprehensive understanding of right and wrong.** They reflect on their behaviour choices; pupils' ability to take responsibility for their own behaviour begins in the earliest years.
- SEND and EAL pupils develop their self-confidence equally well and are aided in this by learning support staff working closely with teachers to support pupils and agree targets for academic progress and self-management.
- Pupils show a highly developed capacity for spirituality.
- As part of their growing awareness of the wider world, pupils showed an excellent level of compassion and empathy as they contributed heartfelt messages to children in a war-torn area of Europe.
- The contribution of the pupils to others, including the wider community is excellent. Pupils demonstrate a **keen awareness of the diverse needs of the community** in which the school resides.
- Within school, there are many opportunities across the age range which enable pupils to serve effectively. These include leadership in house positions, sport, charity and aspects of academic development.
- Pupils show excellent levels of social development.
- The Year 8 house prefects and sports captains play an active role in assemblies, presenting awards and reporting on sporting endeavours.
- Pupils' decision-making skills are well-developed, beginning with the youngest children who respond thoughtfully to prompts asking if their actions were the right choice. By Year 8, pupils have made important decisions about their choice of future school.

“As part of their growing awareness of the wider world, pupils showed an excellent level of compassion and empathy.”

This is an abridged document featuring highlights from the ISI full report, which can be found at newtonprepschool.co.uk/inspection, and the ISI website isi.net

ISI Inspection: Key Stats

PUPILS

206 pupils surveyed

66 pupils interviewed

Exercise books and pupil reports from a range of year groups were scrutinised

The academic data from all 617 pupils was taken into consideration

Three years of pupils' successful applications to future schools was analysed and shared

Assemblies, a range of clubs and activities, lunch and break times, form time, registration, dismissal and after school provision were all observed by the inspection team.

LESSONS

38 different teachers observed across 17 different subject disciplines

50 lessons observed across every year group

PARENTS

617 Whole parent body surveyed (the parents of 617 pupils)

STAFF

123 staff surveyed

47 interviews with staff (leadership, teaching and non-teaching)



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