



# BRUERN ABBEY

PREP & SENIOR SCHOOL

## ISI REPORT 2024

BRUERN ABBEY WAS  
AWARDED A  
**'SIGNIFICANT STRENGTH'**  
IN 'DEVELOPING PUPILS'  
LITERACY AND LANGUAGE  
ACROSS THE SCHOOL AND  
ACROSS SUBJECTS.'





We are delighted to share with you a précis of the report following our recent Independent Schools Inspectorate's routine inspection in November 2024. Not only were we found to have met and exceeded all standards, we were recognised for our commitment to pupils' academic development and wellbeing.

We are particularly thrilled that Bruern was awarded the rare accolade of 'a significant strength' in "developing pupils' literacy and language across the school and across subjects." Significant strengths are awarded to very few schools and only if strict criteria are fulfilled. ISI noted our pupils "quickly grow in confidence and fluency [...] [becoming] confident, independent and effective communicators".

We hope you enjoy reading the report and if you'd like to discuss any aspect of Bruern life please do not hesitate to get in touch.

John Floyd  
Executive Head

Kate Walker  
Head, Bruern Abbey Senior School





“Every boy at Bruern is there for a reason somehow linked to neurodiversity and that’s precisely why no one can ever be the odd one out. Rarely have I seen a kinder and politer bunch of boys.”

BRUERN PARENT

## Quality of Education, Training and Recreation

Leaders have carefully considered the structure of the school's curriculum and the organisation of the school day to help pupils make the most of their time in school. Teaching is meticulously planned.

Teaching is informed through detailed diagnostic assessment of pupils' literacy knowledge, skills and understanding. Pupils become confident and eloquent communicators.

Leaders ensure that the curriculum and teaching prepares pupils well for a range of examinations and qualifications.

Lessons and focused support sessions helps pupils secure the knowledge **they need quickly to become confident and fluent readers, speakers and writers.**

## Leadership and Management, and Governance

Pupils' emotional and physical wellbeing and their academic achievement are at the heart of the leaders' decision making. Leaders have a clear vision for the school.

During their time at the school, **pupils grow in confidence** and acquire the knowledge and skills they need to be well prepared for the next stage of their education.

The school's development plan is informed through thoughtful self-evaluation. Leads focus on developing the school's provision and improving outcomes in terms of pupils' academic achievement.

There is a systematic and rigorous approach to governance. The proprietorial body is well informed and holds leaders to account for their work.

“There is consistent focus on developing pupils' literacy and language across the school and subjects. Pupils quickly grow in confidence and fluency in reading, speaking and writing. They practice and apply their literacy skills across all subjects. Pupils become confident, independent learners and effective communicators. **This is a significant strength.**”

## Pupils' Physical and Mental Health, and Emotional Wellbeing

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Pupils behave well. Relationships across the school are **positive and respectful**. This is evident throughout the school day and during boarding hours. Staff support pupils well to learn the strategies that help them **manage their emotions** and **interact positively** with each other and with adults. ”



Independent listeners are available for boarders to raise questions or issues they have. Staff and school dogs support pupils whose anxieties make it difficult for them to participate in lessons or activities.



**Pupils have high rates of attendance. Including those who have previously had low attendance or who have experienced school-related anxiety.**

Working closely with pupils and parents, leaders gain a detailed understanding of each pupil's needs and experiences.



Provision is in place to support mental health and wellbeing of members of the school community.



The school's pastoral and therapeutic provision contributes positively to pupils' social and emotional development.

## Pupils' Social and Economic Education and Contribution to Society



The curriculum for religious education (RE) provides pupils with a broad knowledge and understanding of different religions and beliefs. Through discussion, pupils explore moral issues and the principles of right and wrong.



**Pupils are well prepared to play a positive role in society.** They have a secure knowledge and understanding of equalities, the rule of law, democracy and the role of mutual respect.



Pupils are confident to discuss aspects such as race, gender and relationships in a mature way, and recognise the importance of the law to protect people from discrimination.



There is a suitable careers programme in place from year 7. Pupils learn the skills necessary to take part in interviews and construct a CV.



“I don't have a favourite teacher because I think that they are all brilliant.”

BRUERN PUPIL





“Bruern staff in their entirety never cease to amaze in their ability and willingness to go above and beyond for each boy.”

BRUERN PARENT

## Safeguarding



**Leaders have established a positive culture of safeguarding. Boarding and school staff are alert to the particular needs and vulnerabilities of pupils.**



The school's system for recording and reporting safeguarding concerns are well understood by staff and are used effectively to record and report concerns.



Staff understand the importance of reporting any low-level concerns about adults working in the school. A suitable log of low-level concerns are kept, and prompt action is taken to ensure that staff and pupils are appropriately supported.



The record of appointments is meticulously maintained and accurate. Recruitment procedures are rigorous. Leaders provide clear and detailed induction training, including safeguarding, which staff must complete before joining the school.

Bruern Abbey School meets standards relating to

Leadership and management and governance

Quality of education, training and recreation

Pupils' physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing

Pupils' social and economic education and contribution to society

Safeguarding



Leaders have designed a rich and broad curriculum that adapted well to meet the specific needs of pupils. The provision of boarding is well managed and boarders are well supervised at all times.

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From Year 7, pupils explore a wide range of options including by attending careers fairs, listening to guest speakers and visiting businesses. Purposeful work experience placements are also facilitated by the school. **Pupils speak with enthusiasm about their aspirations for the future and how they are working towards this.**”

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Contact our Admissions Registrar

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