

A report on

Haberdashers' Monmouth School

**Almshouse Street
Monmouth
Monmouthshire
NP25 3XP**

Date of inspection: June 2026

by

**Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales**

About Haberdashers' Monmouth School

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| Name of provider | Haberdashers' Monmouth School |
| Proprietor status | The Haberdashers' Company and the Governing Body |
| Language of the provider | English |
| Type of school | Independent |
| Residential provision? | Yes |
| Number of pupils on roll | 825 |
| Pupils of statutory school age | 586 |
| Date of previous Estyn visit | 02/02/2026 |
| Start date of visit | 17/06/2026 |

School context

In September 2024, Haberdashers' Monmouth School was formed through the merger of Monmouth School for Boys, Monmouth School for Girls and Monmouth Preparatory School. This new co-educational day and boarding school educates around 800 pupils from the ages of 3 to 18.

The merger of these schools required significant rationalising and relocation of resources, alongside which, there have been changes in leadership and governance. In December 2024, a new chair of the governing body was appointed and, in September 2025, a new headteacher and senior leaders were appointed.

As a result of these changes, the school remains in a period of significant structural and strategic change.

At the time of the core inspection in February 2026, the school did not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. The Welsh Government asked the school to produce a post-inspection action plan to address the areas of non-compliance. To comply fully with these requirements, the school was required to address the issues identified below:

The suitability of proprietors and staff

The proprietor should ensure that:

- all staff have a DBS check within the last three years [23(a)]

A team of HMI visited the school in June 2026 to discuss the school's progress against their action plan.

Main findings

Since the core inspection in February 2026, the school has taken purposeful steps to strengthen processes at both governance and administrative levels to ensure that DBS checks are updated every three years. These processes include the development of automated systems supported by regular checking by staff, leaders and governors. As a result, the school has implemented and embedded the actions detailed in their post-inspection action plan successfully.

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to suggest that the school does not meet the regulatory requirement for the Standard 4 (The suitability of proprietors and staff).

Compliance with the standards for registration

Independent school inspections are governed by the Education Act 2002 and related regulations: the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. These regulations require an independent school to meet an appropriate standard in the following areas:

The quality of education provided by the school

This standard was not considered on this visit

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

This standard was not considered on this visit

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

This standard was not considered on this visit

The suitability of proprietors and staff

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

This standard was not considered on this visit

The provision of information

This standard was not considered on this visit

The manner in which complaints are to be handled

This standard was not considered on this visit

Recommendation regarding continued registration

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024.

Inspectors' judgements on this limited inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (<http://www.estyn.gov.wales>)

The report was produced in accordance with section 163 of the Education Act 2002. The main purpose of inspection under this section is to report on compliance with the Independent Schools Standards (Wales) Regulations 2024. In schools that provide non-maintained nursery education, this report also satisfies the requirements of Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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