

Independent Schools Inspectorate

restrictions on Fr DP included: no exercise of public ministry; no contact with children; and not to wear clergy dress if visiting family or friends. The Review of Safeguarding Arrangements, Policies and Processes was conducted by the safeguarding officer of a different diocese and an independent social work consultant. It is not clear what report the ISI inspectors were shown in November 2009, but this particular report was not written at that time. In the Abbot's absence, it was not possible to ascertain on the visit whether the restrictive conditions on RC-F41 were the same or similar to those which had not proved successful in the case of Fr DP. The school accepted no responsibility for the failure of the restrictive conditions imposed on Fr DP and regarded the restrictions on RC-F41 as sufficient.

Commented [RS4]: Now that I have a copy of the diocesan conditions, I see that they do not specifically mention access to the school.

A.(iv) The case of a previous lay teacher (JM) was raised by the headmaster in discussion and dismissed as being well in the past (from the 1970s and 1980s). The most recent trial and conviction of JM was in 2008, when he was no longer associated with the school and abbey.

B.(i) The allegations against Fr DP, as recorded in the school's safeguarding notes for 5 January 2008, and dated 16 January, were reported to social services and (according to the above mentioned review) to the Westminster diocesan safeguarding officer and the police but there is no record that the school made a report to DCSF. Under the previous child protection officer, the school's records since 2003 do not include mention of any other report to social services in connection with child protection concerns related to staff, volunteers, trustees or monks. All were family or other matters. The child protection register for 2003 to 2007 records 19 referrals to the previous child protection officer, 12 of which were passed to social services and one to the police.

Commented [c5]: This seems at odds with the first sentence of the next para which says that 12 were referred?

B.(ii) For the period September 2008 to June 2009, the June minutes of the Board of School Advisors, including the trustees, record that 13 referrals were made by staff in the senior school to the child protection officer. Four of these were referred on to social services and one to the police. It is recorded that 'the remainder of the cases did not require further investigation'.

Commented [RS6]: In fact, the term Board of School Advisors is used to include not only the School Advisors but also trustees. The term 'governors' is also used.

Commented [ISI7]: Does this mean that the annual review of CP arrangements is not undertaken by the proprietors?

B.(iv) It was confirmed that no referrals to DCSF or ISA had been directly made by the school in connection with Fr DP or Fr RC-F41.

Commented [RS8]: The minutes mentioned below include the trustees. So the term Board of School Advisors is used in this (slightly inaccurate) way

B.(v) In the junior school it was reported that only one (family) case had been reported to the social services in the short time that the junior school child protection officer had been responsible. The headmaster mentioned earlier cases which had been referred to social services. A policy of ready referral was stressed.

Commented [RS9]: I have decided the slight discrepancy in numbers of referrals is unimportant and so have omitted it.

C. Reports on people other than monks or school staff have been made to social services (see above).

D. No material concerns, other than those already mentioned, were reported to the inspectors in relation to staff or others who have ceased working in the school in recent years.

Commented [c10]: No other?

E. There have been no allegations against current trustees of the school. The very recent case of Fr X and the social service involvement are mentioned above, but he had ceased to be a trustee and was not included on the single central register or on the Charity Commission list. The trustee with child protection responsibility for the abbey commented that Fr X is under restrictions until the situation is clearer, but no further information is available. The case of Fr Y, living abroad since 2000, was said not to have gone anywhere. The information on the composition of the trustees is that the Abbot (Fr MS) and the prior (Fr FR) are *ex officio* trustees, and of the four other trustees two are elected by the monastic community and two appointed by the Abbot. The trustees are the same as the Abbot's Council.

Commented [RS11]: As with RC-F41, LS has been suppressed in favour of Y.