



Dear Parents or Carers

Re: Ofsted Inspection

Firstly can I thank you all for your patience in having to wait to learn the outcome of the Ofsted Inspection. I can now inform you of the outcomes from our inspection. This letter is a summary of some of the key points from the report and I have put the full report on the school website. I would hope that you take time to read through the whole report. Additionally, it will be published on the Ofsted website on Monday.

Our report clearly recognises the progress we have made over the last two years. One of the most pleasing aspects of the inspection was the way in which the whole school came together and worked in partnership to show this progress. Reading through the report it is easy to find the positives about your child's school. The most pleasing aspects are the numerous comments about the children. The report recognises their positive attitude to school and the way they conduct themselves in lessons and around the site.

It would be impossible to convey in this letter all of the good aspects of the school so I have selected a few comments and the areas we need to continue to develop. The report is divided into a number of sections and each of these receives an individual grade, which are on the front page of the report. These individual judgements combine into the grade for Overall Effectiveness.

The school has now been graded "Good" for the Sixth Form (called 16 – 19 Programmes of Study in the report), Personal Development & Welfare and Behaviour. These sections of the report show how much progress we have made in the last two years with all of the comments reflecting positively about the school. In particular I would like to highlight some of the comments about the children:

"Pupils conduct themselves around the school",

"Disruption to learning is rare",

"The school is justifiably proud that all of its pupils secure appropriate further education, employment or training".

There is one additional comment I would highlight, which shows how well students in the Sixth Form conduct themselves;

"Sixth Form learners model exemplary conduct to the rest of the school with their excellent behaviour, attendance and smart business dress. They are friendly and cooperative, and the Sixth Form study area is a calm and tidy working environment. Overall attendance is excellent."

It is pleasing to read that the positive comments about the students. I feel that they have finally received the praise they deserve for all that they contribute to the school - something in which we should all be very proud. I have always known what a credit our students are to themselves, their family and the wider community and this is now reflected in our Ofsted report.

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Although not written in the report, the inspection team agreed with the school in recognising that we are now in a position to continue to improve. This is most obviously seen in at the start of the Outcomes for Pupils section which states:

“the overall pace of improvement is not yet rapid enough to secure good overall outcomes for all pupils”

It is clear in this statement that we have made progress and the inspection team believe that we will continue to do so, we now need to ensure that this is quicker and for all students. This is one of the key areas of focus for the school this year and we are on track to show this at the end of this year.

In the sections where the school is still judged to “Require improvement” the positive comments far outweigh the areas for development but as with all Ofsted reports there are always aspects of our work we can improve. The areas for development are written on page 2 of the full report and focus on teaching and learning and leadership. The main aspects of teaching are:

- Develop students skills in writing effectively
- Ensure all marking is in-line with best practice already in the school.
- Have challenging activities for all students with a wider range of opportunities to develop deeper knowledge and understanding.
- Apply the homework policy consistently.

I would like to reassure you that all of the areas for development have already started, as we pointed out to the inspection team. We have a strategic view and plan for ensuring that we improve all of these areas of the school, whilst continuing to meet the needs of your child.

Ofsted is a significant milestone for any school and although overall effectiveness is “Requires improvement” it recognises the good aspects of the school with areas of strength. It is always pleasing to have external validation of this and the whole school can now focus on what is most important- continuing to provide the best possible education for your child.

Overall I am pleased with the recognition the school has received in this report and all we have done over the last two years. As the report states on page 3- I am realistic about the challenges that remain, but I am justifiably proud of the many effective aspects of the school, and of the conduct of the students. I remain proud to be able to say I am the Headteacher of your child’ school and will continue to work tirelessly with all of the staff, students and parents over the coming years.

Finally, I would like thank all of the staff, students and parents for their contributions to the school and the positive report we have received from Ofsted.

If you have any questions or queries about the report please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely



Scott Martin
Headteacher