

OFSTED Report

Dear Parents/ Carers

We are very pleased to be able to share with you the official report for our recent OFSTED inspection that took place Tuesday 7th to Wednesday 8th June.

As you will see, the school has been graded “Outstanding” in all areas: Leadership & Management; the Quality of Education (curriculum, teaching and learning and outcomes); Behaviour and Attitudes; Personal Development; Sixth Form Provision, and Overall Effectiveness.

The positive outcome is a testament to the care and commitment of our staff, the support of our parents, and obviously the hard work and dedication of our wonderful students.

Please take the time to read the report attached. Ofsted reports are now deliberately short and quick to read, but some highlights from the report are listed below:

- Leaders are determined that all pupils will succeed... [and] strive for excellence in all aspects of the school’s work.
- Pupils are taught to treat everyone equally. As a result, there is a strong sense of harmony among the school community.
- Pupils take seriously the school’s core values of excellence, perseverance, responsibility, and family.
- Subject leaders have clearly identified the key knowledge they want pupils to learn. This is well-sequenced so that pupils build up their knowledge securely over time.
- Staff are skilled at adapting lessons to meet the needs of all pupils, especially those with SEND.
- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) flourish here.
- Pupils’ behaviour is exemplary. They are keen to learn and take great pride in their work.
- Leaders take effective steps to help staff manage their workload.
- Staff are proud to work at this school.
- Members of the governing body share leaders’ ambition for the school and support leaders to realise it.

We would like to hold a Parent/Carer Forum in person at the school 5.30pm to 6.30pm on Tuesday 19th July, which is open to all parents/ carers. During this session there will be an opportunity to discuss/ ask questions about the OFSTED report, as well as the recent parent survey, the school’s key priorities for 2022/23, and the RSE curriculum. Sorry for the late notice but we hope to see as many parents/ carers as possible.

As you may be aware, it is much harder for schools to achieve the top judgement than it used to be, and very few schools (roughly 10%) are being judged as ‘outstanding’ under the new framework, and so the staff are unsurprisingly very pleased and proud, particularly given the difficulties of the last two years. However, as HE Luccock famously said, “No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it”, and so we recognise that this success is the result of the ongoing collaboration and teamwork between parents, students and staff.

We are also not complacent about the improvements that are still needed to provide our students with the very best education possible, and so we maintain our commitment to continuous

improvement and renew our promise to try our best to make sure the school is better next year than it is now.

As Albert Einstein said, "In theory, theory and practice are the same. In practice they are not." We are obviously pleased that theory and practice have combined to good effect on this occasion. Thank you as always for your support, and please get back to us if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

Christian Hicks

Executive Headteacher

Mark Pain

Head of School