



15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware we have recently had an OFSTED inspection in school and I wanted to take some time to share with you some of the excellent feedback that we have received.

I would however, like to firstly take this opportunity to thank the staff, pupils, Governors and families who work tirelessly to ensure Bishop Young Academy continues to grow and develop as a beacon of excellence. Since the Academy joined the Abbey MAT in 2017 we have united as a family to make significant changes which have benefitted our students, and our wider community, tremendously. I feel that we all have shared a sustained determination to continue to build on our successes, to strive to provide the very best quality of education, and I would like to thank you all for this shared vision.

I would also like to specifically thank you as parents for supporting school in all we have been aiming to achieve. The inspectors noted; 'The Executive Headteacher, and the Head of School, are well respected by the local community. Supported by other senior leaders, they have introduced a range of changes to address the challenges they faced when appointed. Pupils, parents, carers and members of staff all speak highly of these improvements.' Indeed, the Parent View Ofsted Questionnaire showed 90% of parents would recommend our school. We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with you in future.

The opening paragraph of the report states 'Pupils are proud to attend this school. They are eager to learn. They speak to each other and to members of staff openly and with respect. They are supported in and out of lessons, and always have adults to speak to when they need help or advice.' We are extremely proud of these comments as we feel that we provide exemplary care, guidance and support for our pupils. It is this additional support that has contributed significantly to the improvements in achievement that we have seen over recent years. The report also notes that 'aside from more traditional subjects, teachers also deliver enrichment lessons and activities linked to the 'Bishop Character Curriculum'. Pupils benefit greatly from these opportunities.'

We are a values driven school, a place of nurture where we know our pupils. Pupils feel safe and enjoy school. The report refers to the 'calm and orderly environment' which exists at Bishop Young and states that 'within lessons, and across all areas of school, pupils behave well. They understand the school rules.' It was particularly pleasing to see that the report recognises the fantastic work that our Student Senior Leadership Team does. 'The school's student leadership team are involved in many aspects of school. They are highly regarded and are seen as role models to younger pupils.'

Our Special Educational Needs provision was highly praised in the report. We were exceptionally pleased to see that Ofsted have recognised the great work that has already started in our new resource provision Dovecote. The report states 'Pupils with SEND are well supported at Bishop Young. Leaders, including the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo), have created a culture of inclusivity. Support staff make effective contributions in and out of lessons. The systems in place to nurture and support all pupils, but especially those with SEND, are of a high quality. The





school's commitment to pupils with SEND has been strengthened by the creation of a new integrated resource for pupils with autism spectrum disorder.'

We continue to do the very best for each student in our care. We strive to help all children to recognise their talents, build on their strengths, recognise where they may find something tricky and help them have the skills to move forward from this. We strive to create caring, thoughtful and articulate pupils who are proud of themselves and the communities they live in, and we are pleased that Ofsted recognised this in their report and praised the school and the pupils for this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Cooper'.

Paul Cooper  
Executive Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Cole'.

Rachael Cole  
Head of School