



Achieving individual excellence  
in a caring community

**18 November, 2022**

**Dear Students,**

We are writing to you today with really positive news about our recent Ofsted visit. As you know we were visited by Ofsted on the 4th and 5th October. The aim of the visit is to support us to identify areas that we are doing well in and also to support us to improve the school. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during the inspection visit. All the inspectors were very impressed with what they saw and your behaviour and attitudes as they visited lessons and during social time. You really were a credit to the school.

As a result of the visit we have been judged as a 'Good School' in terms of the quality of education we provide, the behaviour and attitudes of students, the personal development opportunities we give you, the leadership and management of the school and for the sixth form. In all of these categories the inspectors said that we had outstanding elements and we were very close to this standard. These are some of the highlights of the report:

'Leaders and staff are ambitious for their pupils. Leaders have prioritised the creation of positive relationships between pupils and staff in order to help pupils succeed in all aspects of school life.'

'Pupils feel safe at school.'

'Bullying is rare. When it does take place, leaders are quick to act.'

'Pupils can take part in a wide range of after-school clubs. These include the arts, sports and the annual school production. Leaders have prioritised the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme and ensure it is available to all pupils.'

'In the sixth form, students study online courses as part of the 'super curriculum'. Students are enthusiastic about these, particularly courses on programming, digital marketing and working with children with autism spectrum disorder.'

'Leaders have developed an ambitious curriculum.'

‘Pupils can access their lessons online. Pupils told inspectors that this helped them ‘Catch up and go over’ their lessons. Before lessons, sixth-form students prepare by studying the lesson online. This helps them to get ready for independent study at University.’

‘Subjects are clearly thought out with clear curriculum goals. Leaders have carefully considered the order in which knowledge and skills are taught.’

‘Teachers present new ideas clearly. Leaders ensure that teachers emphasise subject-specific vocabulary when explaining new ideas. Pupils use this well in their written work.’

‘Leaders have prioritised reading.’

‘PSHE education is well thought through. Topics are repeated each year so that as pupils get older, they learn more about them.’

Leaders and staff have high expectations of pupils’ behaviour....Leaders support pupils whose behaviour needs to improve.’

‘Leaders have prioritised work experience as part of careers education. Pupils undertake work experience in Years 9, 10 and 12. The school has an extensive careers programme.’

‘Leaders have created the ‘Haydon Hive’ centre to provide pupils with extra support.’

‘There is a strong culture of safeguarding throughout the school.’

I am sure you will agree these are great comments. We feel proud to be part of the school community that achieved these results and see our success as a collective achievement.

If you would like to read the full report [this is a link](#)

Have a lovely weekend.



**Mr Kidd and Ms Appleby**  
Deputy Headteachers

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