



Hillcrest School & Sixth Form Centre

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Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Hillcrest School and Sixth Form is - A 'GOOD' SCHOOL SAY OFSTED 2017

I am writing to inform you that we have just received the report from our recent Ofsted Inspection which took place on 12th July 2017. We are delighted to share with you that our school has again been judged a 'Good' school.

This was our first inspection under the new Ofsted framework that came into place in 2015. As a school that had been judged 'Good' at its last full inspection in 2013 we were visited by two inspectors initially for a one day short inspection and we were delighted that they were able to confirm at the end of that first day that the school remains 'Good'.

As parents and carers, I know you will be pleased that **pupils' conduct is described as 'excellent' and that 'around the school and in lessons, pupils are courteous and confident.'**

The report states that **'The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection' and that a 'strong ambition for improving outcomes for all pupils has led to good examination results.'**

In reaching their judgement, the inspection team scrutinised data, evaluated a range of documentation, interviewed staff and students, and visited many classes in a range of different subjects. They also met with students, staff and governors.

Some of the main points in the inspection report are summarised below and a full copy is available on the school website.

'Parents, staff and pupils all commented on the caring and supportive ethos of your school.'

'Most teaching is very strong and ensures that pupils do well.'

'In the small sixth form, students make good progress and a large proportion go on to study at university.'

'The school works well together as a community, and bullying of any kind is rare and dealt with swiftly. Pupils are aware of the different risks that may face them in today's society and they are helped to keep themselves safe.'

'Overall, a strong culture of effective care and support for pupils pervades your school and, within this, safeguarding is given particular importance.'

'Pupils' conduct is excellent. Around the School and in lessons, pupils are courteous and confident.'
'Strong ambition for improving outcomes for all pupils has led to good examination results.'
(Ofsted 2017)

'Staff commented that they were very proud of the way in which pupils from so many different cultural and religious backgrounds respect and support each other.'

The inspectors were confident that our ambitions for future developments are robust and that we are **'aware of the next steps required to improve the school further, including by ensuring that all teaching reflects the best practice that exists in the school, and your action plans reflect this.'**

Whilst we are of course very pleased with the outcome of the Ofsted inspection, we are certainly not complacent. We are relentless in our drive to ensure Hillcrest students receive the very best teaching and enrichment opportunities.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support in our partnership to ensure that your child is happy at school and reaches their full academic and social potential.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Davies". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Yours sincerely".

Ms J Davies

Headteacher