

15 June 2010

Dear Parents and Carers

Ofsted Report of Inspection - May 2010

We have been asked to make a copy of the recently arrived report available to all parents and carers, please find one enclosed. If you wish to have a copy in larger print please contact the school reception. After publication on the Ofsted website next week, a link to the report will be provided on the school website.

We are pleased that the report has noted many strengths in the school and provided guidance about what the school can do to improve further.

The report is complimentary of the students and their contribution to school, their high attendance, mature and sensible behaviour which supports learning, and their contributions to leading the school. Inspectors report that students feel safe and enjoy their time in school. Achievement is satisfactory, inspectors noted the particular progress of Year 11 students in 2010.

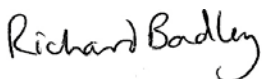
The continual drive for improvement is noted, and the inclusion of all students is praised; there is good equality of opportunity and the support the school provides means that no students are left behind. Provision to minimise absence is outstandingly effective. There is clear advice on development of planning, and deepening the involvement of governors in evaluating the work of the school. Governors' support is noted, and in particular their excellent contribution to safeguarding.

Aspects of good teaching are noted, and advice to improve consistency is provided. The improved assessment and tracking of student achievement is praised, advice is provided on improving marking and classroom feedback. The work of partnerships through Specialist School status, the Kingswood Partnership, and links with employers are all noted as providing a rich and varied curriculum experience.

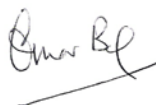
Sixth Form students value their experience, and there is an improving trend of attainment, noted along with the development of academic tracking. An area for improvement is to ensure students are selecting the correct courses in order to take best advantage of the wide variety on offer.

We hope you find the report informative and helpful. Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to respond to the Ofsted questionnaire. The Summary of the school's recent Kirkland Rowell questionnaire, completed by parents and carers, will be published in July.

Yours faithfully



Richard Badley  
Headteacher



Omar Beg  
Chair of Governors