

15 May 2019

Dear Parents

As you are aware, the school had a full Ofsted Inspection, earlier this term on Tuesday, 30 April and Wednesday, 1 May 2019. I am now able to share the report with you and the outcome of our full Section 5 Inspection. A copy of the report can be found on our website, which you can read in full, but I would like to outline for you the most important information. If you wish to receive a hard copy of the report, please contact the school and we will ensure a copy is sent to you.

I am extremely pleased to inform you that the overall judgement is that we are now once again officially rated as a Good school. This is a judgement that we fully support in that it mirrors our own Self-Evaluation and is one which we believe accurately does reflect the school your children attend.

The summary evaluation of the inspection is as follows:

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
Effectiveness of Leadership and Management	Good
Personal development, behaviour and safety	Good
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment	Good
Outcomes for pupils	Good
16 to 19 study programmes	Good

We have been rated as Good in each and every area that was inspected. The report is certainly worth a more thorough read as it is overwhelmingly positive and reflects the progress we have made as a school in the last three years. Some of the areas highlighted include:

*“Pupils who spoke with inspectors, particularly older pupils, talked positively about the improvements in the quality of teaching and learning since the previous inspection. Relationships between teachers and pupils are positive.”*

*“Teachers’ higher expectations have a positive impact on the progress of pupils across the curriculum. Most pupils are on track to meet their aspirational targets, especially the most able pupils, because challenging and stretching work is now planned to meet their needs.”*

*“The school’s core values of ‘respect, responsibility and resilience’ thread through all aspects of school life. Pupils are polite and well mannered and respect others. They listen carefully to the ideas and opinions of others. Most pupils enjoy school and are proud to be pupils at William Howard School. They wear their uniform smartly.”*

*“Pupils interact well with each other. Pupils are tolerant of each other, regardless of differences, and socialise and work well together. There is a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities which broaden pupils’ experiences and enable them to pursue interests and hobbies and learn new skills.”*

There is much direct acknowledgement of the everyday good practice that we deliver across the school. It is clear that we are providing excellent opportunities and support that enables our students to make the progress that they are capable of. Indeed, all areas of the school's work are praised and it is our challenge going forward to ensure that we reach consistently high standards in all our work; as well as continuing to focus on improving further the outcomes of our Pupil Premium students, though the substantial improvements already made have been recognised.

We have many exceptional teachers and support staff and you can be assured that we are all committed to making certain that our students receive the very best learning experiences and are fully prepared for their future.

As a school and with the support of the Trust, we will continue to strive to improve in those areas identified for further improvement. That is certainly not everywhere as some of our practice is already exceptional, the rest now all firmly judged as at least good and improving. It is our challenge to see that as a school every element of our work reaches the highest levels possible and I know that I will have your support in the work we will be doing to secure what we aspire to and will together achieve.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris McAree', written in a cursive style.

Mr Chris McAree  
Headteacher

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