



12th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

New Ofsted Report

Following the full inspection carried out just after February half term, Ofsted have published their report. This is in the new 'report card' style format and uses new descriptors. Here is a link to our report, on our website: <https://tinyurl.com/y3zudrmt>

I am very pleased that the report is fair and accurately describes our school. It highlights the improvements we have made since the last inspection.

Inspectors praised students' focus, motivation and positive engagement in lessons. The impact of the focussed work we have done on improving teaching and learning was recognised by the Ofsted team. It was great that they found the students to have 'maturity, resilience and optimism.'

Whilst past results data was not consistently hitting national averages, Ofsted noted that there is good learning happening in lessons which will enable students to attain well. Already, more students have been getting high grades at the end of year 11. In many of the areas, aspects of our practice were strong. However, the new judgements are not 'best fit': schools have to hit 100% of the 'strong' criteria to move to that category. Thankfully, the report clearly identifies strengths such as attendance, students' safety and their understanding of how they should look after themselves and each other.

The fact that staff know our students well came out as a very positive theme. We actually have just over 700 students in school (more than the number in the report) but it is still a small school which supports that sense of belonging and community. The inspectors recognised the caring relationships between staff and students and, in the verbal feedback at the end of the inspection, commented on the sense of "moral purpose" within the school.

Information about the grading criteria can be found in the toolkit

[State-funded school inspection toolkit version 1.1](#)

Thank you to parents/carers who took the opportunity to complete the 'Parentview' survey at the start of the inspection. The scores and the comments were considered by the lead inspector. Our report will appear on the Ofsted website next Monday.

I invite you to read the report. If you then have any questions or comments, please do get in touch.

S Morris