

To all Parents / Carers

12 June 2018

Dear Parent /Carer

Re: OFSTED Inspection – 3 May 2018

The report from our 3 May OFSTED inspection has been published. I wanted to write to you to share some of the headlines and to thank you for your continued support. This is the first time Vandyke has had one of the new “short” inspections for schools deemed to be good. The full report can be accessed on-line at: <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/137169> or via the school’s website.

The report confirms that “this school continues to be good”. It states that parents believe that “pupils are pushed and challenged to make the best possible progress” and quotes one parent saying “we always recommend the school” and goes on to say that this was echoed by many others. Many parents chose to complete the on-line survey and the lead inspector commented that rarely had she seen such a positive endorsement by parents.

The report reflects on very good behaviour in lessons and around school, stating students are “courteous, welcoming and respectful.” “Pupils respond well to the high expectations of staff and this is reflected in the achievements of many pupils across the year groups in a wide range of subjects.”

We know that the quality of teaching across the school is high and often innovative and this leads to effective learning by students from Year 9 through to GCSE and A Levels. The curriculum is broad and balanced, offering students a range of opportunities including a strong extra-curricular programme. This was generously acknowledged by the inspection team.

I am especially pleased that inspectors wish to praise safeguarding arrangements and the support provided for students. “There is a harmonious learning environment throughout the school.” The support for sixth form students is highlighted as a particular strength.

The report rightly highlights areas for improvement and these already feature in our annual improvement plan. The inspection provides a clear stepping-off point for the school and will help us to build further on the school’s many strengths as we aim to provide a genuinely outstanding education for all of our students.

You know that I feel proud of our school, of our students and their achievements, and the work of staff every day to provide the very best experience for our students. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Tim Carroll
Headteacher



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Platinum Award
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