

The Harefield Academy

Achievement through Active Learning

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am pleased to inform you that we have received the report from a monitoring visit by Her Majesty's Inspectorate to review our progress since the last full Ofsted inspection in September 2018.

The specific remit of these visits is to scrutinise whether or not a school has taken effective steps towards addressing the identified areas for improvement in its last inspection report.

As you will recall we had already made significant progress in recent inspections prior to this visit, summarised again below:

Ofsted Criteria	January 2014	October 2016	October 2018
Effectiveness of leadership and management	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Good
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Requires improvement
Personal development, behaviour and welfare	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Good
Outcomes for pupils	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Requires improvement
16 to 19 study programmes	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Good
Overall experiences and progress of children and young people in the boarding/residential provision	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Good
How well children and young people are protected in the boarding provision	Inadequate	Requires improvement	Good
Impact and effectiveness of leaders and managers in the boarding provision	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Good

The areas we were still required to work on in the last inspection report were as follows:

- ***Embed strategies to improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment, including in the sixth form, so that:***
 - ***pupils, including the most able, are motivated and challenged to make the progress of which they are capable***
 - ***pupils' outcomes are good***
- ***Ensure that the school's work to improve pupils' attendance continues to be applied and extended systematically so that attendance swiftly improves.***



- ***Formalise a system for monitoring and reviewing the performance of staff in the boarding provision.***
- ***Ensure that the administration of staff files is well organised and easily accessible.***

I am delighted to report that both the written feedback as well as the verbal feedback shared with myself and the Chair of Governors, confirm that we have taken effective action to address all of the areas identified for improvement. It is therefore fully anticipated that the only remaining areas of provision not yet graded as 'good' in our last full inspection will certainly be acknowledged to be so when we are re-inspected next year. I have copied some of the salient points from the monitoring report below for easy of digestion, the full report is also attached and can be downloaded from our website [here](#).

You, senior leaders and the governing body have worked hard to sustain school improvements through a time of staff restructure and realignment. You have an accurate understanding of what still needs to be addressed. Detailed plans for improvement are in place. You benefit from a stable, competent and supportive middle leadership team. The impact of actions in key areas such as implementation of the curriculum and improved attendance are starting to be seen.

A number of key initiatives around the quality of teaching and learning have been introduced to ensure a consistency of approach across the school. You, senior and middle leaders have reviewed the curriculum to ensure that pupils in key stage 3 have appropriate time to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to access GCSE courses. Leaders, at all levels, check regularly on the implementation of the curriculum and offer appropriate support as required. Staff work well together, feel valued and, consequently, morale is high.

Pupils' outcomes have improved in recent years, both at key stage 4 and in the sixth form. Clearly, you are proud of the fact that the school achieved its best ever results in 2019. Indicative results show that in 2019 pupils' attainment was above average in mathematics, and broadly average in English and science.

The work done to improve attendance and reduce persistent absence has been particularly effective. Leaders have set clear targets in their attendance action plan, focusing on tackling the challenges that families face. Strong partnership work with the local authority's participation team is beginning to have the desired impact.

Coupled with the significant 3 year improvement trend across our exam results, leading to our best ever attainment at GCSE and post 16, we hope parents will welcome this further positive affirmation of our continued improvement and success.

As always, we thank all families for their ongoing support as we continue to work hard to deliver the highest quality of education to our students.

Yours sincerely,

Tash Hurtado
Headteacher