



Our Lady Queen of Peace

Catholic Engineering College

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Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Ofsted monitoring visit

Please find attached a copy of the letter from Ofsted following our recent monitoring visit which took place on 16th & 17th July 2024. The purpose of the Ofsted visit was to check that the school was making progress. This first monitoring visit would not be a means to changing the official grading of the school.

On reading the Ofsted letter attached, I hope that you will agree that the letter clearly highlights the relentless work of the school to bring about the sustained change and high expectations that our school community rightly deserves. There are many areas across the school where there have been significant improvements since our full Section 5 Inspection in June 2023. I hope that the letter will reassure parents/carers that the school is making good progress. Some of the following key sentences explicitly acknowledge this:

Leadership

'the school and the IEB, have taken effective actions, in a logical order'

'The school is relentless in its focus on making sustained changes so that staff have consistently high expectations of what pupils should learn and of their conduct. It is evident that this drive for improvement is at the centre of each decision that the school are making.'

'The school's improvement plan focuses on the right things. The school has identified what needs to be done and when, prioritising those actions that will have the greatest and most sustained impact over time.'

'there is an increased clarity of roles, responsibilities and accountability.'

Teaching & Learning

'Staff are now better equipped to check how well pupils know and understand the curriculum.'

'staff have a sharper focus on questioning. This means that they are now able to check pupils' progress more effectively.'

'In departments where processes are more embedded, pupils find the points for reflection from their teachers helpful. They act on the advice that teachers give.'

Special Educational Needs

'leaders with responsibility for pupils with SEND have worked determinedly'

'The school has high ambitions for the most vulnerable pupils at the school.'

'staff are guided well so that they can adapt their lessons so that pupils with SEND can access the curriculum. This includes effectively considering how teaching assistants are deployed in lessons.'



In Christ We Grow

'As a learning community, we live out our Mission Statement striving for excellence through caring, sharing and achieving'.

Behaviour

'Pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the school has improved'

'The school has raised its expectations, so that most pupils know what is expected of them.'

'Leaders analyse behavioural data closely'

'Pupils said that bullying is rare and is dealt with well.'

Professional Development

'The school draws on expertise from the local authority, the diocese and from local schools to provide support, challenge and professional development.'

'The school has carefully considered who it works with externally. This has ensured that the support is appropriate and relevant for the pupils and community that the school serves.'

'Staff are positive about working in the school.'

The report also highlights areas where we require further work to improve. These areas were already identified in our School Development Plan. Leaders and staff will continue to work tirelessly to improve our school, with a particular focus on the areas that have been highlighted.

As moving forwards is a partnership with families in our school community; to further accelerate improvements, I ask for the following:

- that families support us with high levels of attendance ensuring that their child attends school each day in full school uniform.
- that families support us when we are addressing behaviour, making sure that any necessary sanctions are completed so that all students can work hard in lessons.
- that students focus on learning and have routines at home where they have adequate sleep, complete homework and revision activities and can meet deadlines.
- that if a parent / carer has a concern or a complaint, they contact the school direct so it can be dealt with and resolved in the right way. I respectfully ask that social media, whether public or private, is not used. Please approach the school directly. Staff will always do their best to act in the best interests of our students and families.

To conclude, I would like to thank our students, families and staff for working together for the benefit of our young people during the last academic year and for the positive feedback that has been given throughout the year. It is fantastic to have the recognition from Ofsted that we are definitely well on our way to realising our vision of 'a nurturing Catholic community with kind, responsible learners achieving to their potential'.

Governors, leaders and staff are not complacent and are looking forward to continuing on our journey of rapid improvement and seeing what our students can achieve with the opportunities presented to them in the coming academic year.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M. Henshaw
Headteacher