14th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your family are well. I am writing to update you on the outcome of our latest Ofsted monitoring inspection, which took place on 20th January.

I am pleased to let you know that following the inspection, Ofsted has praised the steps that we have taken to drive improvement at Waseley Hills High School. Inspectors highlighted how we have taken important steps to improve key aspects of the school and how the Central Region School Trust’s support has been instrumental in driving this improvement.

Since joining the Trust, our staff and leaders have been working exceptionally hard alongside our colleagues across the Trust to ensure we are implementing vital changes that will lead to sustained improvement, and I am very pleased that this has been recognised in our latest report. Some of the key findings noted in the report that we wanted to share with you include:

* Leadership at the school and within the Trust were highlighted as distinct strengths in the school’s ability to make improvements. *“Trust leaders have a clear and candid view of what the school needs to do to improve”,* and these steps are already showing success.
* Furthermore, Ofsted inspectors also praised the significant role of the Trust in *“ensuring that the school improves and noted how Trust leaders are* *fully supportive of the work that has already taken place.”* The school is also working collaboratively with a new local academy governing board to provide more effective support and drive further improvement.
* Inspectors were impressed with the school’s decision to move back to a three-year key stage 3 curriculum. This gives staff *“more time to support students in deepening and securing their knowledge and understanding across different subjects.”*
* Assessors also praised the school for *“using* *subject networks to strengthen the curriculum.”* Students’ learning is built up over time to ensure they are secure in what they know. Leaders have been using the Trust’s network of schools to ensure students receive consistent and accurate feedback. *“As a result, staff are positive about the impact the Trust is having.”*
* Ofsted inspectors were also pleased with the school’s new plan to support disadvantaged students. Leaders are dedicated to *“ensuring that teachers are using the most effective ways to support disadvantaged students in the classroom.”*
* Inspectors also noted how the school is taking steps to improve SEND provisions at the school and the behaviour of students.

We are very pleased to see that the hard work to make significant improvements in the school has been recognised, marking a really important step in our lovely school’s journey. Moving forward, we want to continue to build upon these initial successes, while making sure that every step in our plan to improve is being fully implemented to ensure we are making a real difference for every single child and young person at our school.

Please do read the attached inspection report and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Finally, I want to thank you all for your continued support, especially throughout such a challenging past two years and for welcoming me into your school community. I look forward to working with you and others as we continue our journey of improvement.

Yours sincerely,



**Damian Belshaw**

**Principal, Waseley Hills High School**