



11th November 2019

Dear Parents,

OFSTED Monitoring Visit: 24th September 2019

Please read below our press release for the recent monitoring visit:

OFSTED MONITORING VISIT COMMENDS CONTINUED IMPROVEMENTS AT WELLFIELD:

- **Inspector's letter points to the school's effective action and determination to succeed**
- **Main targets are to continue improvements and build upon work already done**

Wellfield High School was visited by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors on September 24th 2019 in order to monitor the progress made since the last full inspection in May 2018. Mr Marikar was very positive about what he saw, and included many highlights in his letter.

The letter acknowledged that the May 2018 inspection was encouraging for the school and now things were moving on even further, noting that school leaders "have worked hard to build on the positive developments seen in the last inspection" and "there are tangible signs of improvement in many important areas."

Continued improvements in learning and teaching were referenced, saying that students "appreciate the improvements" and show "positive attitudes to learning." The school has ensured all subjects are taught by specialists, and that "non-negotiables" and "clear routines", along with the school's continual push to develop learning and teaching, are having a "positive impact on pupils' progress across the curriculum." He pointed out that "provisional examination results in 2019 indicate that pupils' progress improved in a range of subjects, including in mathematics and science." It was also noted that "Lower-ability pupils are well supported in lessons using a range of effective strategies," and "disadvantaged pupils have made better progress this year than previously."

Mr Marikar observed that behaviour was "calm and orderly" in the dining room during breaks, and that in lessons "the behaviour management system is used well." This was confirmed during his interviews with students, where he also found out that they felt the school was "moving in the right direction". In his observations and analysis of data, he recognised that "boys have benefited from these improvements. They are making better progress than was the case at the last inspection."

Further highlights include a "higher profile" for whole school literacy, further developments in the curriculum, the strengthening of the governing body, and productive collaboration across the partnership of schools.

Wellfield High School

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Mrs L A Gwinnett, Executive Head
Mr S Barnard, Head of School



One of the overriding features of the letter was the school's determination to succeed, and to "provide the best possible quality of education for (Wellfield) pupils." This was referenced twice by the inspector, and when it came to targets on how to improve further, Mr Marikar highlighted only two areas, both already underway, and where the school was already making great strides. These were attendance and curriculum. School leaders are asked to "continue to improve" and "build on" the work already done in these fields. Mr Marikar went on further to say that "the attendance team is working tirelessly to support parents and carers."

If you would like to read the full letter from Ofsted, a copy of it can be found on our website here: <http://www.whs.lancs.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/10068519-Wellfield-High-School-Final-PDF.pdf>

The visit from Ofsted complemented what was also clear from the summer 2019 results. Namely, another suite of GCSEs showing improvements in pupil progress, as the school builds on a year-on-year trajectory. Provisional indicators when comparing schools nationally for progress confirm that Wellfield has moved up a category into the range entitled 'Average'. By implication, this label suggests Wellfield sits in the most common banding, and is therefore achieving progress measures on a par with schools in Good and Outstanding Ofsted categories. A link to the performance tables for Leyland secondary schools can be found here: <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/compare-schools?for=secondary>

Many of you will have seen our video, compiled to give a glimpse of day-to-day life here at Wellfield, available on our website, school's Facebook and on Youtube: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6WK6kcOuBCs>).

All of this combined is further evidence of what we were told in our full inspection - this school is 'transformed' and is improving all the time. We wanted to share this with you, our families and community, so that we can acknowledge and celebrate how far we have come.

"Better Never Stops" and we will never rest on our laurels, but this clearly shows once again that we are continuing in the right direction.

Thank you for your continued faith in us and here's to 'even better'.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Carol Gaynor

Chair of Governors

Mrs Lesley Gwinnett

Executive Headteacher

Mr Stephen Barnard

Head of School