



THE BOURNE ACADEMY

12th March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

As you are aware, we were inspected on Tuesday 27 February and I am delighted to announce that we have been awarded 'GOOD' from the Ofsted team.

As I said to all students, we welcomed the opportunity to showcase the hard work and dedication of our staff, students and local community. The Academy is extremely pleased with the outcome of this inspection and all associated feedback both on the day and in the final report. The report will be published on the Ofsted website by Friday 16 March. Our central belief is that "everyone is a learner and everyone is a teacher", therefore, there are also some areas for us to work on. With your support I am sure we will go from strength to strength in the future. I have included below some extracts from the report for your information.

Our ASPIRE curriculum underpins everything we do so I was particularly pleased that the inspectors noted this is their report. They commented that

'Senior leaders lead the school with integrity and purpose. Staff at the school work hard to promote tolerance and respect. Furthermore, leaders and staff take seriously their responsibility to develop qualities such as ambition and resilience in pupils. Staff rightly, and proudly, champion 'ASPIRE', which sets out the school's vision for pupils and threads through different aspects of its work. 'ASPIRE' stands for Ambitious, Self-confident, Physically literate, Independent, Resilient and Emotionally literate. The senior team has fostered the development of leadership in others – the Academy's personable and positive approach has helped to unite staff behind a common purpose'.

Thank you to all parents/carers who filled out the Ofsted survey. The inspectors used this, in part, to come to the following conclusions,

'the Academy engages well with parents and the local community, understanding the importance of reaching out to secure support for different aspects of the school's work. As a result, and with good reason, the school is held in high regard by parents and local employers'.

They also remarked that Governors play an active role in supporting school leaders saying that ***'they bring a wide range of extensive skills and experience to bear on their work'***. I was also delighted that the inspection team complimented progress in Humanities and they also mention the English department for their ***'effective practice' and 'strong achievement over time'***.

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However, the leadership team and Governors appreciate that there is no room for complacency and recognise the need for further focus on raising achievement across the curriculum. Inspectors suggested that this can be achieved by ;

‘teachers having higher expectations of what pupils can achieve and teachers setting work that meets the needs of pupils of different abilities, including those who are disadvantaged. We will be ensuring this is a key priority going forwards over the rest of this academic year and beyond.

The report also comments on the Academy’s extremely important work on Safeguarding and Attendance, saying: ***‘Staff are well trained and understand their responsibilities thoroughly. Staff exercise their responsibilities with confidence because they work well as a team, communicate often and trust each other’s judgement. Consequently, they deliver clear messages to the wider staff about child protection. Staff are successfully persistent in their attempts to secure support from external agencies to meet pupils’ needs.*** Of Attendance, the inspectors said that ***‘staff work tirelessly to ensure that pupils and parents understand the importance of good attendance’.***

Turning to behaviour, the inspectors remarked on our new behaviour system which has been in place since January 2018; they complimented the Academy on its effectiveness so far and urged staff to continue to apply the new policy consistently. The report also states that;

‘Pupils are safe in school and reported to inspectors that they feel safe. This is because they do not feel intimidated by other pupils and feel that everywhere in school is a safe place. All pupils who spoke with the lead inspector said they would be happy to speak to members of staff if they had worries. Pupils do not think that bullying is an issue at this school and, if it does occur, it is dealt with effectively’.

Moving on to the Academy’s relatively new Sixth Form, the report noted that ***‘Students in the sixth form are progressing well. They value the academic and pastoral support they receive from staff and are loyal towards the school. They benefit from positive relationships with staff. More students are now also staying on to complete their courses and all students go on to further education, training and employment. Students receive high-quality information, advice and guidance in order to make informed, appropriate decisions about their next steps. Staff are rightly proud of the increasing number of students who have achieved places at ‘Oxbridge’ and Russell Group universities. This is, in part, because of the helpful partnership with the school’s sponsor, Canford School. It is also because of the work staff are doing to raise students’ aspirations.’***

As you can see from the above extracts, we are very proud of the outcome of this inspection. The students were a credit to you all and are keen to know the outcome of the inspection as they are proud of our school. As I said earlier, we will not be complacent and with your support we will ensure that The Bourne Academy continues to strive for outstanding outcomes for all of our students, whether that be examination results, further education or work opportunities.

Kind regards

Mr Avoth
Principal

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