

Dear Parent/Carer

As I am sure you are aware, Beacon Academy was inspected by OFSTED on Wednesday 6 February 2019. As Beacon Academy is already a 'Good' school we had a short inspection by the OFSTED team.

As part of our conversion into Beacon in 2017; we are due a full inspection within 5 years of the last full inspection of the predecessor school (Holy Family). This means we are due a full inspection in the 2019/2020 academic year.

*I am delighted to inform parents/carers that following the rigorous inspection on 6 February **Beacon Academy has retained its status as a 'Good' school.*** The full report is available on our website under the tab: *OFSTED*.

OFSTED have highlighted the following in their inspection:

The leadership and management of the academy is 'Good'.

- The leadership team has an accurate understanding of the academy. No areas for development were identified in the feedback.
- The governing body and our sponsor; Wellspring Academy Trust know the school well and challenge the Headteacher to make further improvements.
- Academy leaders judge the quality of teaching and learning accurately.
- The Headteacher since his appointment has taken effective actions which have clearly had a positive impact.
- The curriculum is broad and balanced.
- *All parents* who responded to the OFSTED parent view survey are very positive about the academy.

Pupil Progress is 'Good'

- In particular; pupil progress in the Option subjects pupils choose at Ks4 is '**Outstanding**'. The progress of all students in the option subjects is **significantly above the national average and in the top 10% of all schools nationally.**
- Rigorous systems are in place to track pupil progress in lessons. Middle leaders are clear about their responsibilities.
- Students reported to OFSTED that teachers know the students well and tailor teaching to each student.

Behaviour and Safety is 'Good'

- Beacon academy is extremely inclusive in our approach, the local authority speaks highly of our inclusivity.
- The actions taken by the academy are improving attendance and reducing the number of exclusions.
- Behaviour around the academy is calm and purposeful.
- Safeguarding and pupil safety is strong, we have a dedicated well-trained team to support students get the help and support they need.
- Students talked positively about improvements in behaviour since the school has changed to Beacon Academy.
- Students also said bullying was rare and when it did occur was quickly and effectively dealt with.
- Students liked being part of a smaller academy where they were known by all staff.

I can assure parents that Beacon Academy will use the OFSTED experience and recommendations to drive further improvements in our academy as we continue to relentlessly take Beacon to the next level.

The Wellspring Trust is supporting us with another *£200,000 investment* into our academy site, as we modernise and upgrade our provision, students are already benefitting from a significant upgrade in facilities. Two more new subjects: *Graphic Products and Textiles* are coming onto the curriculum from September 2019 and are available to choose as GCSE options by the current Year 9.

I am delighted that following a recent round of recruitment, we have appointed the following staff from September 2019:

- Miss K Lodge, Teacher of Mathematics
- Mrs T Rufus-Isaacs, Teacher of English
- Miss E Wilson, Teacher of Science
- Miss E Connor, Teacher of Art & Design

We are also advertising for another Teacher of English and a Teacher of Physical Education. These are additional posts created as we grow to the next level. Beacon Academy now has a young committed staff who we have further added to with our appointments for September. I am very much looking forward to further exciting times ahead.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued, on-going support of Beacon Academy. It is very much appreciated by both myself and the whole staff team.

Yours sincerely



J Thurley
Headteacher