

20th June 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The report from our recent Ofsted Inspection is now available on the School website. Unfortunately, it is not the overall judgement that we hoped for but we are delighted that the report highlighted so many positive areas and strengths, whilst acknowledging the journey the School has been on since moving to Free School status. The report has been helpful in reinforcing the School's Development Plan, and Governors and school leaders have responded quickly by putting in place plans to address the findings.

Highlights of the report include:

"Leaders have a clear vision for the school and have overcome significant challenges in moving to the formation of a free school."

"Pupils have positive attitudes to learning."

"The curriculum and the wide range of extra-curricular activities provide a rich range of learning opportunities"

"Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is a strength of the school"

"Pupils have a good understanding of different faiths and cultures. They have a clear understanding of right and wrong, equalities and discrimination. Pupils are taught well how to stay safe, both personally and online. As a result, pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain."

"Sporting facilities are of a high quality and present a superb environment in which to partake of sporting activities."

"Pupils are well behaved in class and respectful of teachers' and other pupils' views."

"Many pupils of all ages show resilience, self-confidence and good manners."

"Pupils receive a wide range of opportunities to help them develop into confident, articulate and well-rounded future citizens."

"Pupils have a strong knowledge of democracy, the rule of law and respect for individuals because they have been well taught."

"Governors fully support the school's ethos and know the school very well."

In particular, Inspectors rated as good the Early Years (EYFS) provision and the personal development, behaviour and welfare of pupils.

Of our Sixth Form provision, the inspectors said that "Students engage well with their learning and have strong relationships with their teachers and peers. Students receive close, individualised support from teachers where appropriate".

Chair of Governors, Mr David Peat, comments:

"Whilst QEGS is a school of long standing, we only moved to the State Sector two years ago and the Inspectors acknowledged that we are on a journey of improvement following these significant changes. We are pleased that the inspectors have recognised so many good qualities in the School and we shall now work together to tackle what we need to do and enhance all that is excellent in the School."

Please do take time to look at the highlights document that is also on our website alongside the report.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform parents that judgements on outcomes are based on the data from September 2016 and to point out that School has made many improvements in assessment, policies and procedures since then. This means, and it is recognised in the report, that current progress and attainment in the primary phase is fully in line with age-related expectations and overall pupils are making good progress (page 9 of the report).

Please do not hesitate to contact School using the email address info@qegsblackburn.com if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Y Gammon