

23 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

The final report following the Ofsted inspection has now arrived and will be published on the Ofsted website in the next couple of days. I attach a copy for you. I can only encourage you please to read all of the text and not just look at the judgements because the description of the school is very positive. Ofsted says that 'Pupils told inspectors that this is a school that is continually improving. Most pupils are happy at Carr Hill High School and are keen to learn. Older pupils said that they 'learn more now than they did in the past'. The report confirms that your child attends a school where:

- ✓ Pupils say 'it is a safe place to be'
- ✓ 'Poor behaviour in class is rare'
- ✓ 'Pupils concentrate well on their work in lessons'
- ✓ 'Leaders have high expectations of pupils' and 'want all pupils to do well in their future lives'
- ✓ 'Leaders and Governors are improving the quality of education for pupils'
- ✓ 'There is a 'successful reading curriculum' to help pupils catch up
- ✓ 'Leaders' identification of SEND is accurate'
- ✓ Pupils 'attend school regularly' and 'are punctual'
- ✓ 'Leaders ensure a strong culture of safeguarding'
- ✓ 'Pupils receive appropriate relationships, sex and health education'
- ✓ 'Leaders have a wide and varied programme of extra-curricular activities to match pupils' interests'
- ✓ 'Pupils 'receive information about the full range of education and training options open to them' (referring to Post 16)

It is good that Ofsted has recognised that this is a continually improving school and we are clearly moving in the right direction. We are encouraged that Ofsted has given us just three areas to work on and the first two of these are closely related.

In terms of Quality of Education, Ofsted is saying that while in some subjects 'leaders have taken effective steps to review curriculum plans'...'there are several subjects that are not planned effectively enough'. From the feedback we received at the time, we know the core subjects of Maths, English and Science came out very positively as well as several others and there are just a couple of subjects that Ofsted asked us to focus on to ensure they are as strong as the others. That work has already begun.

In terms of behaviour and attitudes, there has clearly been a lot of improvement but we recognise that a small number of students do not have the positive experience that most have and that is something we are working on. I wrote to you a few weeks ago highlighting the reality that this is often older girls on the receiving end of inappropriate comments and behaviours from older boys. A lot of work has been done in this area already over the past few weeks. Younger students are very positive in pupil surveys about a lack of bullying.

It seems normal with Ofsted that if they give RI for Quality of Education, then that is also the judgement for Leadership and Management. It is pleasing that no specific areas for improvement have been given for leadership.

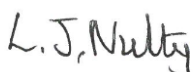
We are pleased that personal development is recognised as Good but are disappointed with the judgements overall. They do seem harsh, especially in light of the all the work that has had to be done to respond to the pandemic, and this report does not read like that of an RI school. However I assure you our energies will go into continuing our daily task of working for the benefit of each and every one of our young people. We are responding to the areas to improve and are confident that we will be recognised by Ofsted as Good by the time of the next visit.

I would like to thank the school community – Governors, Staff, Students and Parents/Carers for all the efforts of the past four years. Ofsted may not have recognised that we are Good in the actual judgements but as a school community we know that the school is.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Waller
Headteacher



Mrs L Nulty
Chair of Governors