



TRUE LEARNING
PARTNERSHIP



Poynton High School and Performing Arts College

Head Teacher: Mr M Dean

Friday, 22 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share our latest Ofsted report, which we received this week, and which confirms that we continue to be 'a good school'. This report celebrates the many achievements of our school and reflects the pride that I have in the staff, students and community of Poynton High School.

This was a rigorous inspection, over three days, and conducted by a team, including two of His Majesty's Inspectors (HMIs). As part of the inspection, they spoke to many students, governors and staff, observed lessons, form and social time, visited off-site provision and made use of student, parent and staff surveys.

Inspectors praised our 'high aspirations for the achievement of pupils and students in the sixth form'. They recognised that 'leaders have designed an ambitious curriculum which explicitly builds on pupils' previous learning. They have organised the curriculum well to enable pupils to develop an increasingly broad and sophisticated body of knowledge from Year 7 to Year 13'. As a result they recognised that students achieve highly.

I am proud of our students' conduct, and pleased that inspectors commented that 'pupils typically behave well and aspire to live up to the clear behaviour and conduct expectations that are outlined in the student charter. This promotes values of mutual kindness, tolerance and respect, which permeate the school.' The inspectors were very complimentary about how mature and articulate they found the many students they engaged with during the inspection.

Inspectors also commented on how students 'benefit from a well-considered programme to support their wider personal development' and that 'pupils' learning is enhanced through the wide range of opportunities and experiences that are on offer to them'. That was also the case with careers guidance where they noted 'a rich programme of experiences both within and beyond the taught curriculum'.

Support for reading has been a big focus in recent years and we are pleased that inspectors commented that 'expert staff support ... pupils to catch up with their peers. Leaders have ambitious plans to help all pupils to maintain a love of reading'.

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The report also comments positively on many other aspects of school:

- 'Teachers are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the subjects that they teach'
- Leaders 'are tenacious in securing the help that pupils and their families need'
- 'Students in the sixth form enjoy acting as leaders and mentors for younger pupils'
- 'Pupils enjoy participating in a wide array of clubs'
- 'In the sixth form, teachers deliver subject curriculums which are aspirational and meet the needs of pupils well'.

Thank you to all of you who contributed to the parent survey. The lead inspector commented on how many of you had taken the time to make written comments in response and this informed the lines of enquiry in the inspection.

I have also written to our students and I hope that they are proud of the comments about their school. I was pleased that Ofsted's judgement matched our own evaluations and I look forward to continuing the improvement of our school and will share the progress of that work through the newsletter. Your support is invaluable in this process.

The full report can be accessed [here](#) and I hope that you enjoy reading it. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes



Matthew Dean
Headteacher