



19th June 2014

Dear Parents/Carers

Please find attached to this letter a copy of our Ofsted Report, from the recent inspection on 4th and 5th June 2014. Overall we are pleased with the outcomes from the report and feel the inspection team was rigorous but fair. The school is graded Requires Improvement; this is not a category of concern for Ofsted.

With the one year dip in performance in 2013 the inspection team could not have graded the school as Good, even though much of what they saw over the two days was good and some outstanding. The judgement of Requires Improvement is therefore a good platform for the school to build on in preparation for the next full inspection within two years. The results this summer should return to above national averages and Year 10 and 9 will then achieve well above national averages in 2015 and 2016.

Other key strengths in the report include:

- **Teaching has improved** significantly over the last year
- **Behaviour Is graded Good** in all aspects
- **Achievement in the core subjects is rapidly improving**, particularly English
- **The Sixth Form** continues to improve
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is a strength of the school

The report reflects the excellent attitude to learning of our students, with a grading of Good for behaviour. The inspection team were full of praise for the students and we thank them for their hard work. This was no surprise to us as we see what our fabulous students can do every day.

May I take this opportunity to thank all those parents and carers who contributed to Parent View, the online Ofsted survey. Currently there are 136 responses online, which is over 100 more than the inspection in 2012. The inspectors were very impressed with the overwhelmingly positive response of parents and carers.

I am delighted to take on the role of Head of School, having worked as Deputy Headteacher with Mr Rhatigan for the last four and a half years; we are proud of the improvements we have made together in the school. We believe our school can be Outstanding and we aim to achieve this in our next Ofsted inspection.

I look forward to working with you to make the school the best it can be for the young people and the local community.

Yours faithfully

**Mr Smith-Childs
Head of School**



**THE
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SCHOOL**

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