



# BEACON ACADEMY

Ambitious for excellence in all we do

Headteacher Ms Anna Robinson

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Following our recent Ofsted inspection which, as you know took place on the 21 - 22 March 2017, I am delighted to be able to share with you the process, some feedback and the final outcome of the inspection.

Schools are judged on four areas to reach an overall effectiveness judgement. These areas are; the effectiveness of leadership and management; personal development, behaviour and welfare; the quality of teaching, learning and assessment and outcomes for pupils. As we have a sixth form our 16 to 19 study programmes are also inspected.

Our Ofsted inspection team consisted of two HMIs (Her Majesty's Inspectors) and seven OIs (Ofsted Inspectors). It was a rigorous two days where they gathered evidence from over 50 lessons, assemblies, social time, work in books, meetings with my myself, members of the board of trustees, senior and middle leaders, teaching and non-teaching staff and a wide range of our students. A phone call with the Head of Education Improvement from the Standards, Learning and Effectiveness Service at the Local Authority was also included. Furthermore, key documentation including; strategic plans, board of trustee minutes and student reports on academic progress, behaviour, safeguarding and attendance were also scrutinised. Staff, student and parent responses to questionnaires were also analysed.

In my numerous discussions with the Lead Inspector, Sarah Hubbard, she was fulsome with praise about our school. She fully recognised and acknowledged the rapid and sustained improvements that have been made across the board. She commented particularly on the unwavering and overwhelming support from parents, staff and students and the ambition, determination and resilience from us all to successfully harness the potential for excellence.

In summary we have been judged as outstanding in the two areas of the effectiveness of leadership and management and personal development, behaviour and welfare. The quality of teaching, learning and assessment, outcomes for pupils and 16 to 19 study programmes have all been judged as good. For our overall effectiveness, we have been judged as a good school. Although we have not yet secured an outstanding judgement for our overall effectiveness, this report is a significant improvement on our previous inspection and a fair reflection of where we are as a school currently.

School inspection is far more challenging than it has ever been in terms of the regime and framework. Our inspection converted from a one day to a two day inspection because the lead HMI felt that we are on the cusp of outstanding for overall effectiveness. A conversion in itself is a huge accolade. The lead inspector has to seek approval from Ofsted on day one armed with robust evidence to justify a conversion to the quality assurance team. Further scrutiny on day two by a larger team of inspectors provides them with the evidence they need to substantiate any re-grading of the four key areas. In our case, under our new leadership team, we secured a judgement of outstanding for leadership and management. We also secured a new judgement of outstanding for personal development, behaviour and welfare. Following a two day inspection, we also receive a new full written report for our school. We are all immensely proud of this.

I have attached the full report for your reference and would encourage you to take the time to read this as there is so much in there for us all to be proud of. The exceptionally positive summary of key findings on page one outlines in fourteen points just how good we are. This compares with one area for improvement which, to assure you, we are making significant progress with - this is recognised in further detail within the full body of the report.

I will be leading assemblies next week to share the feedback with your children and reiterate to them the observations that were made during the inspection. Most importantly I will be congratulating them on the outstanding judgement they have received for their behaviour.

As ever, I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support to ensure that we are doing the very best for your children.

Yours sincerely

**Anna Robinson**  
Headteacher



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