



Tuesday 3rd July 2018

Dear Parent /Carer and Students

I am delighted to report that Marshland High School has been judged a 'Good' school by Ofsted. Inspectors, who visited on 5th and 6th June 2018, delivered judgements of good across all areas.

May I take this opportunity to encourage you to read the full report which is on our school website. You will find the report reads very positively and it recognises that **"senior and middle leaders have an accurate view of the school's strengths and priorities for improvement"**; as we begin our journey to becoming an outstanding school.

The inspecting team highlighted that School Leaders, Governors and Trustees have successfully created **"a culture of raising aspirations for pupils"** and, despite recent leadership changes, **"have maintained their focus on improving the quality of teaching and assessment in the school"** and that leadership changes **"have not resulted in a loss of focus on improvement priorities"**. Trustees and Governors were found to be **"committed and passionate about pupils achieving the best possible outcomes"** and that **"middle leaders are energetic and enthusiastic"**.

Inspectors recognised that **"teaching is effective and builds upon pupils' positive attitudes to learning"**. They also found that **"positive relationships ensure pupils support and encourage one another to learn"**. They added, **"Teachers have strong subject knowledge"** and within the classroom, **"high levels of challenge"** were observed. Inspectors noted that **"pupils receive precise guidance that helps them improve the quality of their work"** and that teachers **"know the specific needs of individual pupils well"**. They were especially positive about the Teaching and Assessment within English and Mathematics.

Inspectors judged that **"a carefully constructed curriculum supports pupils' personal and academic development well"** and concluded that **"pupils achieve well in a range of subjects"**. Judging the careers and future education programme they said **"an increasing number of pupils are progressing to higher levels of study when they leave school"**. They were also pleased to discover that pupils have **"many opportunities to develop their interests through a variety of extra-curricular activities, clubs and trips"**.

With regard to behaviour and conduct, they found that **"pupils are respectful to one another and to adults"**; **"bullying incidents are rare"** but when it does occur **"teachers deal with it well"**. The report ascertains that **"behaviour of pupils is good"** and pupils typically **"conduct themselves well in lessons and in less structured periods, such as break and lunchtime"**. Fundamentally, inspectors confirmed that **"pupils are polite, friendly and proud of their school"**.

When reporting on outcomes the inspecting team concluded **"pupils' progress at the end of key stage 4 was above or in line with that of pupils nationally"** and in English, low prior attaining pupils **"made significantly better progress"**.

The report outlines areas, which the school will need to address, in order to be judged outstanding in a future inspection. We recognise the need to improve student attendance and reduce the number of pupils who are persistently absent from school. This will be a key priority in the new academic year. In addition to this, another key priority will be improving the outcomes for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Work towards these priorities has already begun.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all those involved in the inspection from our students, who were a true credit to our school, to our parents, who provided such positive feedback to Ofsted and to our Staff, Governors and Trustees for their hard work and professionalism.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of the report further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr Craig Jansen
Headteacher

