

June 2014

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

Our Ofsted report has been published and it would be fair to say that we are deeply disappointed with the grade 3 (requiring improvement) that we have received. When you read the attached report, I know you will find it hard to recognise the Academy.

Although the overall Grade was 3, we are pleased to note that the behaviour and safety of students at the Academy was graded at 2 (good). This highlights the importance that is placed on student behaviour and the high expectations that we have for it at the Academy and we thank you all for your support in this area.

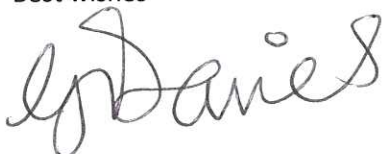
Reference is also made in the report to the very high aspirations that we have for the students generally. Our main priority is to ensure that all of our students achieve the very best that they can and our expectations are designed to support them in their development. We are aware that progress towards meeting these expectations has been slow in places. However, please be assured that we are putting mechanisms in place to further support achievement and we will continue to work with our Sponsor and the Camden Local Authority to support students' development and ambition.

The key messages in the report focus on a need to improve consistency in the quality of teaching, achievement in Foundation and Level 1, and the effectiveness of leadership and management. These requirements are all in line with our strategic and operating plans and much work has already been undertaken to improve these key areas. This can be highlighted through Ofsted's acknowledgment of our successful efforts to secure improvements to teaching and achievement in Level 3 and Level 3+.

As a relatively new institution going through crucial stages of development, there are things that we know we need to do better. The inspection team recognised as a strength that "the Academy leaders and governors are open and clear about what the academy must do to improve" and I would hope that we can rely on your continued support to help make these necessary improvements. However, if you have any queries regarding the report, we are holding open sessions on Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 June at 6pm at which we would be happy to talk through any concerns that you may have. We will also be circulating the Kirkland Rowell questionnaire later this month and I would encourage you all to complete this to assist us in this endeavour.

In conclusion, there is nothing in the report that we had not already identified as an area of development and that does not feature in our plans. We thank Ofsted for the report and we are pleased that the high aspirations and expectations we have for all students is recognised. We acknowledge that we have work to do at this early stage of our development. However, we feel confident that with the full support of you, our Sponsor and our Governors, the improvements we have achieved with Level 3 can be translated into similar improvements across the Academy.

Best wishes



Geraldine Davies  
Principal