



08 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted feedback and outcome at The Hart School

I am delighted to inform you that the final Ofsted inspection report from our two-day section 8 inspection on 21 and 22 June 2023, accompanies this covering letter. The report will also be accessible via the school website today and published on the official Ofsted report website, from Thursday 14 September 2023.

The purpose of a section 8 inspection is to gauge whether a school continues to be 'good' as indicated in our previous report in March 2018, or to ascertain whether there is evidence to suggest a school is above or below its original grading.

It gives me great pleasure to share with you that **The Hart School continues to be a good school** as judged by Ofsted in our latest inspection.

There has been a lot of hard work behind the scenes to maintain this 'good' judgement, and we are thrilled that the hard work of our staff has been recognised. I'm sure you'll join me in congratulating everyone who works and volunteers at our school.

I wanted to draw your attention to the following feedback we received:

- The Ofsted report is incredibly positive: it says the school is "harmonious, inclusive, welcoming and friendly", and that students are committed to being "happy, ambitious, resilient and tolerant" learners.
- Inspectors say that the school's motto "we can, we will, we do" is fully realised both in, and outside of the classroom, pupils have respect for people's differences, and that they behave very well in lessons and move calmly around the school site.



The report also notes that:

- There are high expectations for pupils, and an ambitious vision for the quality of education that pupils should receive. This includes a carefully crafted curriculum that ensures pupils learn well in lessons, and opportunities outside of the classroom to build pupils' resilience, knowledge and skills.
- Reading is prioritised and subject leaders think carefully about how they can promote reading within different subjects.
- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported. Leaders provide teachers with accurate information about these pupils' needs, and pupils with SEND follow the same ambitious curriculum as their peers.
- The new policy for managing behaviour has had a positive impact, and the majority of classrooms are calm and orderly. Most pupils, including those in the sixth form, display positive attitudes to learning.
- Leaders place great importance on pupils' wider development. They have constructed a curriculum that teaches pupils about a range of important issues, such as healthy relationships, consent and how to stay safe in the community and online. Pupils speak confidently about the school's inclusive nature and how they are taught to respect different cultures, beliefs and characteristics.
- There is a wide variety of after-school clubs and sports, and pupils receive high-quality, impartial careers advice about their next steps in education, employment or training.
- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective, leaders have established a strong culture of vigilance at this school, and staff receive regular and high-quality training and take their responsibilities seriously. All pupils know who to go to if they have any worries or concerns.

The report itself is very detailed and highlights the many elements of effective provision at The Hart School as well as the next steps needed to take the school forward. What is very satisfying is that the next steps identified were already within our development plan prior to this inspection and the associated adaptations are being implemented.

Please take the time to read the [inspection report](#) in full as it evidences a school that is not only good, but one that continuously strives to improve and excel.



I also wanted to personally thank everyone who completed Ofsted's Parent View survey. This is such valuable feedback, and we will use your feedback to continue to make the school the best that it can be for your children.

To summarise:

This is an excellent report, particularly at a time when the benchmark for 'Good' is at the highest level it has ever been. The Ofsted inspection was thorough, robust and professionally rigorous. The leadership team and I were open and transparent around all aspects of school life, and had much evidence to support the inspection process.

I am particularly pleased that Ofsted recognised the journey of improvements made at The Hart School over the past five years and I would like to thank the parents/carers who have supported the school during this time.

Once again, may I thank all those involved in the inspection itself, especially the staff, The Creative Education Trust, governors, and the students who shone during the inspection process and continue to make a positive contribution to school life.

Thank you once again for all the support you continue to give the school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R. Sandham

Principal