

2 September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

## June 2022 OFSTED Report

As you are aware, we were visited in June 2022 by OFSTED as part of their cycle of inspections. Their full report on Kingsmead School has only now been made available and is attached. At this current time, OFSTED have judged the school to be **'Requires Improvement'**. During the inspection there was a recognition of the changes already in place to move the school forward, and an acknowledgement of the barriers faced both in the recent past and within our current context.

The areas identified in the inspection which we are proud of are as follows:

- Personal development of students, which has been judged as good
- The arrangements for student safeguarding, which 'are effective'
- The 'wide range of subjects' on offer 'including vocational subjects'
- We provide 'opportunities for student leadership' and to 'broaden horizons', including a 'range of clubs'
- The 'pastoral support' available to our students is 'effective'
- Our careers programme with its 'good guidance', 'well planned' PSHCE curriculum and support for apprenticeship finding
- In 'most lessons, behaviour is calm'

The areas within which we must continue to improve are as follows:

- The sequencing (arrangement of topics) in some subject curriculums
- Oversight & quality assurance of Teaching and Learning
- In-class support for SEND students
- Our knowledge of and support for students' reading
- Consistent expectations of student behaviour and conduct
- Reducing the subject focus on examined content
- Consistent approaches to parental communication

Cont'd/...

## CARE

## ASPIRATION

## RESPECT

## DETERMINATION

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We fully recognise the areas of improvement at Kingsmead School. We would ask that the following context should be considered when reviewing this Ofsted judgement:

- The return from Covid-19 related school closures has been both unsettling and challenging for many students as part of a national picture further complicated by our onsite circumstances.
- The school has experienced considerable staffing shortages, which has been a national issue, meaning leaders have routinely been deployed to cover lessons, reducing our capacity to develop areas of school life.
- At the point of inspection, the leadership team was going through a considerable period of transition. A Deputy Headteacher was absent, the school is recruiting a new Head Teacher and an Assistant Headteacher was on maternity leave.

It is unfortunate that this inspection took place before our most recent set of examination results, which were the best ever in English & Mathematics and well above Somerset County averages.

The Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team will be working closely together to develop an action plan that fully addresses how to improve the areas that have been identified in this inspection. We are fully committed to improving the quality of your child's education at Kingsmead School and to ensuring an improved outcome at the next OFSTED inspection.

Yours faithfully



Judith Jackson  
Chair of Governors  
On behalf of the Governing Body of Kingsmead School



Mark Williams  
Head Teacher