

12 June 2024

Dear Parents/carers,

## St Andrew the Apostle School Ofsted Inspection, April 2024

As you know, St Andrew the Apostle received a two-day, Section 8, Ofsted inspection on 23 and 24 April 2024.

I am delighted to be sending you a copy of the Lead Inspector's report on the inspection which, as you can see, concludes that: the behaviour of students is exemplary; safeguarding is highly effective; the curriculum is ambitious and meets the needs of all students; the students achieve strong outcomes and the school ensures that students are very well provided for in terms of their personal development and extra-curricular opportunities.

We were especially pleased by the following observations on our culture: 'Pupils are happy members of this school community and said that it feels "like a family"'; 'The school has very high standards of behaviour in and out of the classroom'; 'The school is a calm place where pupils are kind to each other. Pupils have highly positive attitudes towards their learning'.

The report notes the impact of our Christian ethos and values: 'Staff encourage pupils to follow the school's values of kindness and forgiveness and they display these with pride', and comments on the very positive culture nurtured by staff: 'Pupils try their best, following clear values taught by the school. Leaders have set high expectations for how they want pupils to learn and achieve.' Our curriculum is praised and inspectors note that, 'Teachers are confident subject experts and ensure that pupils understand what they have been taught before moving on to new content'.

As a proudly inclusive school it is gratifying to note that inspectors comment positively on our ambition for our disadvantaged students: 'The school has high expectations for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).' The breadth of our extracurricular programme and individually tailored careers programme are highlighted, too, and the report notes the strength of the wider leadership team.

I am exceptionally proud of our students: 'Pupils character development is a considerable strength of the school.' I am incredibly proud, too, of our dedicated staff team, whose professionalism is justly praised by the reporting inspector: 'Teachers are confident subject experts'.

The areas for development in the report were those already identified by the school and by our RET Advisers, and I am currently working with senior staff, governors and those advisers to ensure that every detail of our inspectors' advice is considered and acted upon, as we strive to excel in every aspect of school life.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for putting your trust in St Andrew the Apostle School and in RET and sending your child/children to us for their secondary education. It remains a privilege for us at St Andrew the Apostle to serve you all. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for the school and I look forward to our continued partnership.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Philip Hills

Headteacher