

# Leek High School



January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Ofsted Section 8 Inspection of Leek High School – 10th January 2019**

I am now able to share with you the pleasing news that, following our recent Section 8 Ofsted Short Inspection, Leek High School remains graded as **Good** for overall effectiveness. We are committed to maintaining a culture where students feel safe and are supported through positive relationships with each other and staff. We are pleased, therefore, that in her feedback letter the Lead Inspector highlighted the following aspects of the school's performance for particular praise:

- *"Pupils generally have positive attitudes to learning and they behave well"*
- *"Relationships are respectful throughout the school"*
- *"Staff know pupils well and pupils trust their teachers"*
- *"Pupils are very complimentary about the pastoral support that they receive when they need it"*
- *"Leaders have demonstrated a determination to bring about a change in culture and raise pupils' aspirations"*

In a one-day Section 8 short inspection time is very limited and the focus of this visit by two of Her Majesty's Inspectors was limited to: the safeguarding of students, the quality of teaching, curriculum provision and the sixth form. In relation to these aspects we are especially pleased that the inspectors found that:

- *"Pupils are and feel safe at school"*
- *"There is a strong safeguarding culture across the school"*
- *"Behaviour and teaching are improving and the school is a calm and orderly learning environment"*
- *"The quality of teaching is improving because the leadership of teaching is effective"*
- *"The school's curriculum includes courses which prepare pupils well for their next steps. It offers a range of academic and vocational courses. Pupils are given support to make option choices based on their needs"*
- *"Pupils and students benefit from a wide range of career advice and guidance which help them to make informed choices"*
- *"The sixth form is growing in popularity, with more pupils choosing to stay on. Teaching in the sixth form is improving and students are very complimentary about the support they receive, both in lessons and pastorally. Students are polite and courteous and would recommend their sixth form to their younger peers"*

The priorities for further improvement recorded by the Lead Inspector in her letter have already been identified and are being worked on by school leaders and the Local Governing Body. The very brief nature of this type of inspection visit only enables some aspects of our school to be celebrated. We can all think of so much more that we are proud of and should celebrate. I would like to thank everyone in our school community for their daily hard work and commitment in making such a positive difference to the lives of all our students.

The Lead Inspector's full feedback letter is available on the school website and will be published on the Ofsted website on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Evans', written in a cursive style.

Mr P Evans

**Headteacher**