

21 May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Ofsted Inspection April 23rd and 24th 2024

I am delighted to share with you the result of our recent Ofsted Inspection where a team of five inspectors judged the school to be Good in all areas: the quality of education; behaviour and attitudes; personal development; leadership and management and Sixth Form provision, meaning Overall Effectiveness, is Good.

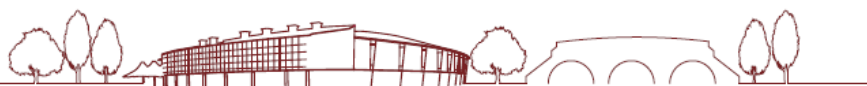
The inspection report highlights the school's commitment to delivering **'the same high-quality education to all students'** underpinned by the school's core values of REAP: respect, effort, attitude, and perseverance. **'High expectations for students' behaviour;** the fostering of **'positive relationships'** with **'staff knowing students well'** and **'taking bullying seriously'** as well as **'calm, orderly classrooms'** are all highlighted at the start of the report. Crucially, inspectors said: **'students are safe..... and know who to talk to if they need help or guidance,'** they are **'accepting of difference'** and **'derogatory language is not tolerated.'** Ofsted describe the school as **'tenacious'** in accessing additional support for children; **'Safeguarding is effective.'**

During their visit, inspectors met with students, staff, leaders, and governors as well as receiving survey feedback from parents and their children. They talked to students about their work, observed social times and visited numerous lessons which resulted in inspectors describing the curriculum as **'broad and ambitious'** as well as **'well-designed'** and teachers having **'strong subject knowledge;** the personal development programme was judged to be **'carefully considered.'** Inspectors were pleased the school offers many clubs and activities at lunchtime and after school.

The strong culture of reading was praised with the library seen as **'vibrant and welcoming.'** Inspectors also commended the comprehensive reading programme which means **'students' reading ability improves,'** resulting in impressive performance outcomes at GCSE and in the Sixth Form. **'Students with SEND are very well supported in the school'** and **'strong pastoral support'** was noted with leaders assessed as working **'to overcome any challenges that students face.'** Sixth Form staff were rightly congratulated for offering bespoke support to students during their time at the school and in planning their futures.

Comment from Mr James Vaughan, Chair of Governors

The Governing Board at The Blandford School are absolutely delighted with the recent OFSTED inspection report, which graded the school as 'Good' in every category and therefore deservedly graded the school as 'Good' overall. Whilst there is always more to do in school improvement, I would like to congratulate Mrs Wilson, her leadership team and all the teachers and staff at the school for their focus and hard work over recent years. Inspection reports are just one external measure of a school's performance, and I can say, with high confidence, that The Blandford School really is a good school, which provides excellent opportunities for all our



MOTIVATION AND CHALLENGE FOR ALL

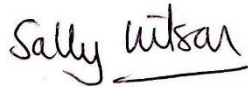
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**THE BLANDFORD
SCHOOL**

children and young people to thrive and achieve success. I look forward to supporting the school in building on this strength for the future.

I am thrilled Ofsted have judged us to be a 'Good' school; this outcome reflects a significant, whole team effort to ensure the education of children in the Blandford area is 'Good.' I would like to thank those parents and members of the community who have supported us so much over the years and the children who bring the school to life every day, we are immensely proud of you and are pleased you are proud of your school. We have an extremely dedicated, specialist staff team who deserve their success to be recognised as do the Board of Governors, they have been instrumental in our work on school improvement. I look forward to continuing to work with all parents and carers, in support of your children.

Yours sincerely



Sally Wilson
Headteacher

