

## **OFSTED FEEDBACK – SHORT INSPECTION - JANUARY 2018**

We are pleased that Ofsted have recognised the progress being made by The John Fisher School. Here is a summary of their findings:

### **What Ofsted said about our School Culture:**

- “Students feel safe and very well looked after.”
- “Pastoral care is very strong.”
- “Staff and governors show great concern for the well-being of all the boys.”
- “The school’s work is underpinned by its lively Christian character, supported by positive values, which are carefully applied.”
- “Attendance is above average.”
- “In this positive environment, students achieve well.”

### **Here is what Ofsted said about the Quality of Leadership:**

- “Middle and senior leaders are thoughtful, proactive and effective in their work.”
- “The leadership team has ensured that all safeguarding arrangements are fit for purpose and records are detailed and of high quality.”
- “The staff are very thoughtful in the way issues facing the school are addressed.”
- “The reformed governing body is careful to protect and develop the school’s traditions, and support the staff, while increasingly showing that they expect further improvement.”

### **What they said about Academic Standards:**

- “At Key Stage 3, there is convincing evidence that younger students progress well.”
- “Pupils with low attainment from primary school often make particularly strong progress by Year 11.”
- “Disadvantaged pupils, entitled to pupil premium support, also achieve well.”
- “GCSE results are consistently above average.”
- “Students achieve highly at A-level.”

### **Quality of Teaching and Learning:**

- “Our visits to classrooms showed that teachers had secure subject knowledge, clarity of purpose, high expectations and gained good responses from the pupils.”
- “During lessons, pupils concentrate well and listen carefully. They work hard and help each other.”
- “Very recently two members of staff have been appointed to lead on the development of teaching and learning. They have made a good start identifying sensible areas to work on, such as increasing the level of challenge in lessons further.”

### **Curriculum Provision:**

- “The Key Stage 3 curriculum is broad and well balanced.”
- “Key Stage 4 students benefit from a wide range of options.”
- “You are insistent that pupils have good opportunities to study the humanities, sport and games and arts subjects.”
- “The school is developing its curriculum on religious education.”
- “Senior leaders are using research evidence and external expertise to try and make the curriculum better still.”

### **Safeguarding:**

- “The school carries out pre-employment checks rigorously, and the Single Central Record is scrupulously maintained.”
- “Students say it is very easy to get help and they have key points about keeping safe clearly explained to them.”
- “Risks are properly assessed, including for pupils’ activity online.”

### **Student Behaviour:**

- “Pupils’ behaviour is thoughtful and kind.”
- “Around the school students behave safely and are very polite and friendly.”
- “Pupils enjoy taking responsibility.”

### **Here is what Ofsted said about our Sixth Form:**

- “The Sixth Form is very successful and well led.”
- “Staff support students in working hard and students show good levels of independence.”
- “Students show leadership in the school.”

### **Pupil Feedback:**

203 pupils completed the confidential questionnaire. Students commented on:

- “A happy atmosphere.”
- “How teachers are welcoming and friendly, and that it creates an atmosphere where you belong...”
- “How they like the traditions of the school...”
- “Wanting more lessons in skills such as money management.”
- “More information on which courses and job options might suit them.”

### **Parents/Carers Feedback:**

335 parents/carers completed the confidential questionnaire in the 24hrs provided.

Comments included:

- “A great school that cares about all the boys.”
- *“As a parent I cannot fault the John Fisher School on anything. Any concerns I have had in the past have been very well dealt with and promptly too. The teachers do a VERY good job by engaging with the parents when need be. I will describe this as a very good partnership between the parents and the school which effectively is in the best interest of my son. I find the teaching staff very approachable and highly efficient. The teaching, pastoral care, discipline and everything relating to my son’s welfare is Excellent. I commend the teaching staff highly and would rate them as par excellence.”*

### **Next Steps for further improvement:**

- “Ensure school development planning includes clear, ambitious objectives and time scales for improving further outcomes for pupils.”
- “Ensure outcomes for pupils in English rise to be as strong as those currently reached in Mathematics.”

You can access the full letter from the Ofsted website: <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>

