



NOTTINGHAM ACADEMY




Principal: Mrs J French

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 @NottmPrimary

Tuesday 19th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are keeping well and looking forward to the upcoming holiday season.

As you may be aware, the Academy was inspected by Ofsted on the 14th and 15th November, and we wanted to share an update with you regarding the outcome.

Since our last inspection in 2020, our teachers and staff have been working incredibly hard, with the support of the Trust, to drive forward improvements that will help us provide the best possible teaching and learning experience for our entire school community. As a result, we have made significant progress in our early years and sixth form provisions, as well as the personal development of pupils - all of which were commended by Inspectors and rated Good. However, despite this positive feedback, some of our improvement initiatives have not been in place long enough to be fully embedded or for their impact fully realised. Therefore, the Academy continues to be rated 'Requires Improvement'.

Though this judgement is not what we had hoped, inspectors made many positive remarks throughout the report, indicating the Academy is on a strong and positive improvement journey. In particular, inspectors stated that "most pupils are proud to attend this school. They like being part of a community that is rich, diverse and vibrant" which are, of course, core values upheld across the Academy and Trust. As you also hopefully know, we are dedicated to encouraging pupils to celebrate and respect their peers' differences and inspectors highlighted that this was evident amongst our pupils with many enjoying "sharing stories about their own cultures", showing "a mutual understanding of different faiths" and that they "know what it means to be a good citizen".

Given the diverse and vibrant community we serve, it is essential our staff understand how best to help pupils learn how to keep themselves safe, both of which were also commended in the report. To this end, inspectors noted that "pupils develop warm and trusting relationships with staff. They know there is always someone they can talk with if they are worried about something". This is a lovely result of the Academy's comprehensive pastoral support. Equally, the report recognises how reading has been prioritised throughout the Academy, resulting in a love of reading that permeates through all ages and subject areas.

Additional highlights from the report include that:

- "Those who speak English as an additional language (EAL) are welcomed and supported."
- "The school's leadership team has been strengthened since its previous inspection. They have a clear ambition for what pupils can achieve and how pupils should behave."
- "Pupils with complex special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) get a good deal."
- "The trust has a realistic view of the school's strengths, and the things that need to get better. It provides plenty of opportunities for staff to enhance their practice."

The Nottingham Academy is part of the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust group of Academies

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Of course, there is always room for improvement and looking ahead we will continue to work closely alongside our parents, carers and colleagues across the Trust to build on these strong foundations and further accelerate our positive trajectory. Some of our plans for further improvements include:

- Continuing to embed curriculum implementation and adaptation in non-core subjects to ALL pupils/students achieve well.
- To improve persistent absenteeism for ALL pupils/students so that it is in-line with national figures.
- To further develop our communication strategy to facilitate effective liaison between home, school and child.

We thank you for your ongoing support. Our parents and carers play a vital role in ensuring we are able to foster a positive and welcoming school community and provide all our pupils with the very best educational experience.

We look forward to seeing you all again next term and wish you all a joyful winter holiday.

Your sincerely,

Mrs J Elbaz
Executive Principal
Nottingham Academy (Secondary)

Mrs J French
Principal
Nottingham Academy (Primary)

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