

12 November 2021

Dear parent/carer

Re: Ofsted Visit 12 and 13 October 2021

Following our visit by Ofsted on Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 October 2021 I am delighted to share the outcome with you today. The visit was a Section 8 inspection of a good school and there were four possible outcomes.

The outcome of the inspection was Outcome 1 – The Dukeries Academy continues to be a good school. Further details about the inspection framework and how the judgements were made can be found at the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/section-8-school-inspection-handbook-eif/school-inspection-handbook-section-8>

A link to the full report can be found on our website and the report will be published by Ofsted, via their website, on Tuesday 23 November 2021:

<https://www.dukeries.atrust.org.uk/our-academy/ofsted/>

Key findings from the report are:

- ‘As pupils enter the school, they are reminded of its inclusive culture by crossing the Rainbow Road. The staff know the pupils very well and have their best interests at heart. Pupils say that they are excited to attend this school and feel safe.’
- ‘There is a strong culture of safeguarding at this school. Staff are trained weekly on the most important local and national safeguarding issues. Teachers use this training to teach pupils how to stay safe, including when online. Pupils know who to speak to if they have any concerns.’
- ‘The new principal and other leaders have very high expectations of how pupils should conduct themselves around school. Teachers show pupils how to behave. They also teach pupils how to be proud of their own achievements and celebrate those of others.’
- ‘Leaders have planned an ambitious curriculum underpinned by powerful knowledge as one of its six pillars.’
- ‘Teachers adapt how they teach to support pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). They use teaching assistants well. Teachers have access to important information about pupils with SEND that helps them understand how best to support these pupils. As a result, all pupils are taught the same ambitious curriculum.’
- ‘The programme of study in the sixth form helps students gain expert knowledge in the subjects they study. More students are going to university now. Students say that teachers help them achieve well.’

The report highlights the continued improvements that we have made on our journey from good to great. It recognises the skill and expertise of our talented staff team, celebrates our incredible

students' work, and acknowledges the role of our Local Academy Committee and Academy Transformation Trust in supporting the Academy.

I am privileged to lead The Dukeries Academy and incredibly proud of what we have achieved since I joined the Academy in April 2020. I am fully committed to further raising standards to ensure we truly are the 'trusted Academy of choice at the heart of the Ollerton community'. It is our ambition that Ofsted judge us to be outstanding the next time they visit.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope you enjoy reading the report as much as I have.

Kind regards

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

Mr Ged Rae
Principal