

Fulston Manor School

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www.fulstonmanor.kent.sch.uk



Academy Trust Registered in England: Company No. 7343725

AGB/DP

19th March 2014

Dear Parents

Following our recent inspection I am writing to inform you that the Ofsted Report has now been published and is available to you, either by following the link on the front page of this ParentMail or in paper format from the school office.

The overall judgement of the inspection team was one of “Good”, with the report summarising its findings as follows:

- *Students achieve well and the progress of different groups of learners is improving rapidly*
- *The quality of teaching is good and continuing to improve with some examples of outstanding practice*
- *Students behave well in lessons and around the school. Their conduct, manners and punctuality are good. They are courteous to adults, welcoming to visitors and respectful of one another*
- *Students say they feel safe at school and have a good understanding of how to stay safe*
- *The headteacher and the governing body have a clear vision for the direction of the school. Their actions have brought about improvements to standards of teaching and students’ achievement and they have the ambition to take them to the very highest levels.*
- *The sixth form is good. Students are strongly supported by their teachers to ensure they achieve well*

Although it is frustrating that the school is no longer rated as outstanding by Ofsted, particularly as in the report eleven aspects are identified as improving or having improved since the last inspection with none identified as having declined, the formula by which Ofsted now grade achievement places schools such as Fulston Manor at a significant disadvantage. The fact that we focus, extremely successfully, on GCSE examinations, taking our students from significantly below average attainment on entry to significantly above average results in Year 11, does not serve to counterbalance the impact on the statistics of others who rely more heavily on the uplift given to their profiles by the inclusion of vocational qualifications. We believe passionately in choosing qualifications that are right

Continued/.....

A High Performing Academy Trust

Headteacher A G Brookes MA (Cantab)



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Page 2

for our students rather than selecting those that may increase our scores for inspection. This is the moral thing to do and a path we will continue to follow, placing the interests of our students and our parents above all other considerations. The fact that the report presents such a positive picture of the school is a clear indication of the correctness of this position.

Finally, may I strongly recommend that you find the time to read the report in its entirety. The picture that it paints is of a high achieving school, peopled by well behaved students and skilled, dedicated staff, is one of which I am proud and which will, I believe, provide further evidence for you that Fulston Manor's enduring popularity and continuing success are fully borne out by the findings of the Ofsted team.

Yours sincerely

A G Brookes
Headteacher

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