



Shelley College

A SPECIALIST CENTRE FOR SCIENCE

"Excellence and Enjoyment"

Huddersfield Road, Shelley, Huddersfield HD8 8NL

Tel: 01484 868777 Fax: 01484 222945

e-mail: office.shelley@kirklees-schools.org.uk

web: www.shelleycollege.org

Headteacher: Mr John McNally



Specialist Schools
and Academies Trust
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY

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March 2010

Dear Parent/Carer

It gives me great pleasure to enclose our OFSTED report from the February inspection. It truly is very positive and one of the strongest reports you will see for a secondary school under the new inspection framework.

I am delighted the report recognises the students' exemplary behaviour. I have never seen such a positive statement about students in any OFSTED report but it is thoroughly well deserved. The students do behave exceptionally well every day and their contributions make Shelley College such a special place. The inspectors also highlighted the outstanding pastoral care the students receive which, together with our excellent positive behaviour system and your support, creates the right environment for them to "achieve exceptionally well".

The grades (in bold) at the top of page 6 are known as the "prime judgments" by OFSTED. I think we performed magnificently in this respect, with six out of seven deemed outstanding.

The overall headline is that we are a good school with many outstanding features. This is a similar judgment to the previous inspection in 2006 but marks substantial progress under what is widely recognised to be a much more demanding inspection regime. Our curriculum was judged to be good but was close to outstanding and this one alteration would have led to an overall outstanding for the whole report.

I am also pleased the inspectors confirmed we had already identified the areas we need to improve in order to become outstanding. Plans to further improve assessment and develop one or two aspects of our curriculum will be implemented in September and I can assure you we will keep looking for ways to improve the school further.

The Sixth Form also received lots of praise and inspectors recognised the improvements that have led to the college achieving the best value-added performance in Kirklees last year. I have no doubt that with similar results this summer and a few extra improvements implemented in the Autumn, the Sixth Form will also be considered outstanding.

Finally, thank you for your continuing support and for the many positive comments you sent to inspectors via their questionnaire. I trust the report shows your confidence in the school is well placed and you will continue to see Shelley go from strength to strength in the future.

Yours sincerely,

John McNally
Head Teacher