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April 2017

Re: Ofsted short inspection – message from the Head

OFTSED visited the academy on Wednesday 1st March and put all our staff and students through their paces. I am proud of the fantastic efforts over the years that has established the academy and set it on such a sure footing for the future. Ofsted were highly effusive about our academy and all that it represents and offers our students and the wider community.

The new one day inspection of ‘Good’ schools sets a high benchmark which we sailed through with flying colours. The letter is the new format that reaffirms our quality status and our standards from the original report of February 2013. It sets out the qualitative ways we have improved since then.

Ofsted said that Hammersmith Academy has ‘established a culture of high aspirations for all members of the academy and the ‘leadership team and a committed governing body have created an inclusive and nurturing environment that values the learning needs of both pupils and staff.’

I am really over the moon that all key stakeholders are positively mentioned in the final letter which reflects what we know about our school. They say how ‘staff describe the school as a ‘dynamic’ and ‘energising’ place to work and pupils share this view’ and ‘are committed to pupils’ academic, emotional and creative development.’ Further, they say that ‘pupils’ behaviour around the academy and in lessons continues to be exemplary’ and ‘staff have created a culture of mutual respect, tolerance and pride.’ I take my hat off to staff, both past and present that have given service in building such a fine learning organization.

The holistic all round development of students is our passion. Schooling is about the academic and personal development of young people in preparation for life in a modern global society. We know that a growth mind-set coupled with self-confidence and a strong set of moral values will support our students for the challenges that the future will bring.

Ofsted said that ‘pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is given high priority and consequently, pupils value and celebrate differences. The unifying ethos of high aspirations and collective pride, means that pupils are keen to learn, work hard and value the opportunities they are given.’

I want to thank my staff, senior team, governors, students and especially parents for putting their trust in us and supporting the academy to reach such high standards. We will not be



complacent, for we want to continue to grow and ensure that all students are maximising their efforts and therefore their potential.

As Ofsted point out, 'governors are proud of their popular and inclusive community school. They share your high aspirations for every pupil and are committed to equality of opportunity, irrespective of pupils' starting points.'

With these endorsements ringing in our ears, we plan and move forward to the next stage of our development and embedding all that is good as we stride forwards in making Hammersmith Academy an even more valued place to learn, work and grow.

The report is available on our website or the through Ofsted website.

A post-Ofsted meeting on Wednesday 26th April will be held in the academy theatre from 6.30-7.30pm for any parents that wish to discuss the report.

Kind regards,

Gary Kynaston
Headteacher