



# Marshalls Park School and Performing Arts College



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Headteacher Mr N Frost

26 April 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

## Ofsted Inspection

On the 15 and 16 March 2016, Ofsted inspected Marshalls Park School under a 'Section 5' inspection – essentially a planned full inspection. The report is now published, and is available on our website and will be on the official Ofsted website from 28 April 2016. The overall judgment is that we are a 'Requires Improvement' school. The main reasons we are not 'Good' are down to the fact that whilst many aspects of the school are working well and improving, there remains too much variance. So whilst students enter our school with below national average attainment scores and they leave at national average which shows good progress, within that headline figure, individual groups of students don't all do so well. Additionally, within the report there are references as to whether enough has been done since the last inspection to ensure consistency of teaching and learning standards across the school, although equally recognises the best practice that does occur at Marshalls Park.

Whilst I would like to have seen a better judgment, I do agree with the inspector's overall findings and they support the school improvement agenda that I discussed at interview and have begun to implement. The Ofsted team was very professional throughout, and recognised I had only been in post for a little over 2 months at that moment, but ultimately they believe that we must further improve the outcomes for all our students including those in receipt of pupil premium. Whilst I would urge all parents and carers to read the report thoroughly, I would also say that the section reporting "what does the school need to do to improve further" has many elements that I identified during my interview process, and represent the key priorities for the school.

There are many good features to build upon at Marshalls Park especially given the strengths in English and Maths compared to many schools, but it is imperative that we share that practice across the whole school for the benefit of all students. Equally I am pleased that Ofsted have recognised the changes in recent months and that the school and the governors understand clearly what is working well and what needs improving. I have already commissioned a number of significant projects, reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the senior team, widened our pool of external support, implemented a wider system of sharing best practice across the school, and started to consider Multi Academy Trust arrangements that could support these developments in to the future. We can now move on with the changes that we are making to provide the very best education

for our young people. Indeed, the behaviour and attitude of our students was praised by Ofsted, but we must secure those students the best outcomes possible.

I am very proud of the school, and during the inspection process I was deeply impressed with how our school community pulled together. From my perspective as the new Headteacher, I feel supported by the school community in making the changes that I believe will secure the best education for our young people. I recommend this report to you, and welcome your comments and views. If you would like to discuss the report further, then please do not hesitate to contact the school, and we can make appropriate arrangements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Neil Frost  
Headteacher