

March 2009

Dear Parent/Carer

Ofsted Inspection Report/Letter to Students

'Uplands is a successful and forward thinking school!'

I am delighted to present to you the report from our unannounced inspection, carried out on 4th and 5th March 2009.

The inspection was led by HMI David Humphries as part of a pilot scheme to consider how schools would respond without any warning. The new framework for arriving at judgements is more rigorous than previously, linking the inspection more closely to the 'Every Child Matters' agenda.

In addition to data, lesson observation, interviews with governors, staff and students and visiting a parents evening, the team used a questionnaire to sample parents' views of the College. I am grateful to all parents who took the time to contribute.

I am very proud of what we have achieved. Over 40% of our work was judged to be outstanding putting us in the top 10% of schools nationally. Our focus on teaching and learning and raising achievement on many fronts led the team to come to the view that the College has made significant progress since the last inspection. The Ofsted team judged the College to take 'outstanding care of the students' and to be in a strong position to continue to improve.

We can all justly be proud of our young people. The most rewarding comments for us all explain that students at Uplands have a strong sense of personal responsibility and that they develop good social and personal skills and become confident and articulate young men and women.

We are all very pleased that inspectors recognised that Uplands is a college which enables students to achieve more than very good exam results but is a place where preparation for a successful future can be achieved by all.

Thank you all.

Yours sincerely

Jayne Edmonds
Principal