

5th July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you about the recent Ofsted inspection which took place between 23rd and 24th May 2017.

The overall judgement for the school is Requires Improvement. I would like to thank the students for their hard work throughout the year but in particular over the two days where they were able to showcase their school, in addition to helping inspectors with their work - something which received praise.

The report highlights areas of development for the school. The results of 2016 had many positives especially in ensuring pupils achieved the appropriate qualifications relative to the next phase of their lives. However, the school was aware of areas of where we needed to improve. Consequently, strategies have been in place from September to address these issues. They have included appointing an Assistant Headteacher to work with the progress and attendance of disadvantaged students and working with a HMI Ofsted inspector, to provide training with our middle and senior leaders looking specifically at teaching and learning. We have ensured that the current cohort of Yr11 students have had extensive support offered throughout the school day and during holiday periods. Furthermore the new timetable was published last week ensuring smaller class sizes in Yr7/8/9 and new behaviour structures will be in place from September 2017.

I am pleased that the report has recognised some of the above measures and indeed the impact it has had so far this year. I was further heartened when it described the culture we have at Crofton. It describes how the school makes the children feel welcome, safe and secure, where there is a culture of trust and respect between pupils, their peers and staff. The report is keen to point out the different learning opportunities pupils have both with formal qualifications and the extra activities that are provided. High quality careers advice and support ensures pupils stay on in education or training when they leave Yr11.

I am delighted that the report acknowledges that the governors have an accurate view of the school's strengths and weaknesses and that the leadership across the school is acting decisively to address them.

On Thursday 13th July there will be a drop in session from 4-7 pm which will be attended by the Leadership Group and a selection of governors should you wish to ask any further questions about the report or indeed establish what actions the school will be taking. If you are wanting to visit please can you email headteacher@croftonacademy.org.uk with an indication of what time this would be.

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Thank you for your support so far but I now look forward to the future in working with pupils, parents/carers, staff and governors in striving for excellence for everyone who attends.

As a parent I always want the best for my children, and as Headteacher of Crofton Academy my aspirations are no different.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Walker', written in a cursive style.

Mr P Walker
Headteacher