



11th March 2016
Head/jac

Dear Parents/Carers,

Ofsted Inspection 23rd & 24th February 2016

I am writing to inform you of the outcomes from the recent Ofsted inspection of the school.

I am delighted to be able to report to you that the school has been judged as being 'Good' in every category. This confirms what all of us; staff, governors, parents and students, have known for some time. We have been in the unusual position of looking forward to a visit from Ofsted so that we could have the opportunity to demonstrate to them what a good school SWR is. One of the inspection team (two of whom were Her Majesty's Inspectors) commented that it was highly unusual to be welcomed to a school by teachers saying how pleased they were that they were visiting the school! This was indicative of the confidence that the staff had in the quality of teaching and learning, the excellent progress that our students make and the good behaviour and positive attitudes of our students.

A copy of the report has been sent to you with this letter and I hope that you take the time to read what is a very positive summary of the effectiveness of the school. There are a number of areas which I would like to highlight as being particular strengths:

- It is immensely satisfying to see the excellent outcomes for our students being recognised as such a strength of the school. Our students make good progress in all year groups, progress for many is rapid and their achievement at GCSE represents a significant achievement.
- Students' behaviour is good and they conduct themselves very well around the school, they are friendly, polite and courteous. This will come as no surprise to anyone who spends time with our students: they are a credit to the school and their parents.
- The school is very well led and managed and our middle leaders, both Leaders of Learning and Learning Managers, are seen as a strength of the school. I completely agree with this judgement as they work tirelessly to support our students. It is clear that parents agree with this as all parental responses (and there was a high response rate for this) agree that the school is well led and that they would recommend the school to others. The report makes it clear that this level of parental support is highly unusual and I am very grateful for this.

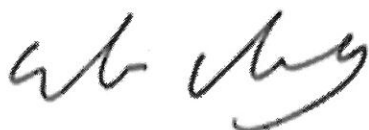
- Students feel very safe at school and parents feel that SWR is a school in which children can thrive. They are also very well prepared for the next stage of their education with high quality careers advice and guidance and the school is very successful in this area. The report comments on the impressive range of opportunities available to students outside of the curriculum and also with regards to the curriculum. It is very pleasing to see the efforts of staff who readily give their time to support a wide range of clubs and activities being recognised.

There are, of course, some areas identified in the report that the school will address in order for us to achieve an outstanding judgement in our next inspection. These include improving attendance rates to above the national average and reducing the number of exclusions. Of course we will not compromise our very high expectations with regards to behaviour in doing this or our commitment to being an inclusive school which supports and serves the local community. We are determined to address these development points as we continue on our journey towards being an outstanding school.

Sir William Romney's is not just a good school, it is a very good school and it was clear during the inspection and in the feedback from the inspection team that they shared this view. The outcomes from our students are very good and are improving and this is recognised by Ofsted. The school will next be inspected in three years from now and the challenge for us now is to demonstrate that outcomes are not only good but that they are outstanding. Given the very high quality leadership and teaching that the school has, the very positive attitudes of our students and the tremendous support from our parents, I am confident that we will achieve this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

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

Steven Mackay
Headteacher