

Fairford Academy Barnehurst

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Acting Head Teacher: Mr S Robinson

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Dear Parents and Carers

I am pleased to inform you that the final Ofsted inspection report from our two-day section 8 inspection on 28th February to 1st March 2023 accompanies this covering letter. The report will also be accessible via the school website today and published on the official Ofsted report website, seven working days from today's date.

The purpose of a section 8 inspection is to gauge whether a school continues to be 'good' as indicated in our previous report in November 2017, or to ascertain whether there is evidence to suggest a school may no longer be at that standard.

It gives me great pleasure to share that Her Majesty's Inspector believed there is sufficient evidence of performance to suggest that Fairford Academy Barnehurst remains a GOOD SCHOOL.

I am delighted that the hard work undertaken by the Fairford Academy staff and Trust community has been recognised, including the comments regarding our SEND strategy, the new curriculum offer and enrichment experiences and the emphasis on reading which was observed throughout the school. The Inspector recognised the necessary changes which had been implemented in the school and the role of leaders in driving this change, commenting on the ambition leaders have for all pupils and the high standards and expectations promoted. It is fantastic to note that the Inspector judged the school to have "a strong culture of safeguarding" and made mention of pupils enjoying "coming to school and supporting each other to succeed".

The report itself is very detailed and highlights the many elements of effective provision at as well as the next steps needed to take the academy forward. What is very satisfying is that the next steps identified were already within our development plan prior to this inspection and the associated actions are already in progress.

Please take the time to read the inspection report in full as it evidences an academy that is not only good, but one that continuously strives to improve and excel and decisions made by leaders to effect change in the school were in the best interests of pupils.

To summarise:

This is an excellent report, particularly at a time when the benchmark for 'Good' is at the highest level it has ever been. The Ofsted inspection was thorough, robust and professionally rigorous. The leadership team and I were open and transparent around all aspects of school life and had much evidence to support the inspection process. Our ethos is "Excellence Every Day" which means, for us, it was essential that the Inspector saw the school running normally and they gained a true snapshot of a day in the life of Fairford Academy Barnehurst!

I am particularly pleased that Ofsted recognised the journey of improvements made at the school and I would like to thank the parents/carers who have supported the academy during this time and their willingness to engage with leaders in school initiatives. It is very exciting that we finally have a PTA up and running, keen to further develop the holistic school offer for our children.



CEO: Ms J Southby BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH
Illuminate Minds Trust

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Once again, may I thank all those involved in the inspection itself, especially the staff, Illuminate Minds Trust, trustees, local governors and the pupils who shone during the inspection process and continue to make a positive contribution to academy life.

Yours sincerely,



Ms J Southby
CEO
Illuminate Minds Trust



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Acting Head Teacher
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