

Dear Parents/Carers,

During last term we had a visit from Ofsted as part of our journey to get to ‘Good’ and then ‘Outstanding.’ The full report is on our website if you would like to read it in its entirety.

I would just like to give you a flavour of all the extremely positive comments they made about our school and particularly your children.

The first part of the letter says “leaders have transformed the quality of education provided at St Aldhelm’s Academy. The academy is now a place where students enjoy their learning, a harmonious atmosphere is now evident across the academy.” The report describes, in their words, “the highly aspirational targets set for students.”

One of the areas I picked up very quickly last February was the quality and quantity of work completed by students. In the report it describes that “teachers communicate much higher expectations of the amount of work students produce.”

Another key aspect they picked up on was the very positive relationships between students and adults. It says “students listen carefully to their teachers, feel confident to ask questions and to offer their opinions. Lessons proceed at a good pace and the best use is made of learning time.”

A part of the report I was extremely proud to read was “students’ behaviour has been transformed in a short time at the academy.” It goes on to say “students love to attend, enjoy school and have exceptionally positive attitudes to learning.”

This last part of the report has come about due to the hard work that has been put in by students, together with a really positive relationship that we feel we have with you, our parents.

The only way a school can ensure it continually delivers outstanding learning, achieves outstanding progress and is a happy place for all is if everybody – staff, students and parents – has the same goals, high expectations and aspirations and desire to ensure every individual meets their potential.

It is an absolute privilege to lead St Aldhelm’s through its journey to ensuring it is good and then outstanding.

Yours sincerely,



Ms S Thomas

# St. Aldhelm’s Academy

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