

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022



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**BRADFORD GIRLS'  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

*Co-educational up to 11, Girls only 11-16*

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your families are keeping well.

Following last month's updates regarding our school, I am writing to you today to inform you of the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection, which took place on 24-25<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

The process was very detailed, and we are pleased to report that Her Majesty's Inspector judged that **'the school no longer requires significant improvement'**. This is great recognition that our **improvement strategy is raising standards in the school**, despite the pandemic and an updated inspection framework having brought additional challenges over the past two years.

The full report will be available to you on the Ofsted and school websites, but I wanted to take this opportunity to outline some additional context as we continue working together to further progress the school's improvement plan.

Ofsted agreed with our own self-evaluation that the school still 'Requires Improvement' and confirmed that we have a good understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses. This places us in a strong position to continue to drive forward on our plans.

We are pleased Ofsted noted the improvements made to our leadership strategy and that **'leaders create an inclusive environment across the whole school'**. We are happy to report this was also supported by pupils who said they **'feel safe'** and **'free to be themselves at school'**. Since the previous inspection, we have committed to strengthening the quality of the school's provision and are also encouraged by Ofsted's findings which conclude that **'recent improvements to curriculum planning mean that there is now a coherent and well sequenced curriculum in place from early years to Year 11'**. Indeed, we were delighted that inspectors judged our provision at Early Years and Foundation Stage to be 'Good'.

With this said, I want to reassure you that we take the outcome of this report seriously and are dedicated to continuing our hard work to urgently address any areas for improvement. As inspectors recognised, we too had identified these priorities and have already begun working on strengthening these elements. Our focus will now be ensuring consistency across all years and subject areas, particularly with regards to teaching and learning and the application of the behaviour policy. The initiatives that are already in place, and that we will continue to support, in line with this report are:

- **Further strengthening curriculum implementation** – For the last two years, we have undertaken a significant amount of work on the school's curriculum intent, developing clear and well-sequenced plans across all years. We are now further developing this with a focus on improving the quality and consistency of teaching and learning across the school.

- **Continuing to support students with SEND** – Upholding our commitment to inclusive teaching, we have already enrolled a second member of staff to complete SENCO training with Leeds Trinity University. Additional improvements which are also underway, include a staff training programme; drawing on the expertise of the school's Cognition and Learning Team; and the appointment of a Social Emotional and Mental Health Lead.
- **Progressing work on our school-wide behaviour strategies** – Since 2020, we have introduced and refined our behaviour strategies which have already made a positive impact on the school. Improvements already noticed, and reported by inspectors, include improved punctuality and low levels of disruption in class. We continue to work with staff to ensure these strategies are employed consistently.
- **Continuing to support students' careers education** – We take our role in preparing students for life after school extremely seriously, and with this in mind are undertaking a full review of our careers education plan. This is with a view of enhancing this provision and ensuring students receive as many opportunities as possible, while also investing in a system which will help students better record their careers advice and guidance and improve the quality of resources available for research and discovery.

This is just a snapshot of the actions being taken but I would like to once again reassure you that **we are committed to furthering our improvement plans for the benefit of the students we serve**.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring our students receive the best possible education and are empowered to reach their potential, and together with the support of our students, staff, parents and wider school community, look forward to further strengthening our provision and the positive impact we can have on our young people.

Finally, I wanted to thank you all for your ongoing support which is vital to our school community. We very much value your thoughts and feedback, so please don't hesitate to get in touch if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Martin



Principal

Bradford Girls' Grammar School

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