

AJO/KHA/GBL

22 January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

Ofsted Monitoring Inspection – 19 December 2017

Following our latest Ofsted monitoring inspection just prior to Christmas, we have now received a letter from Ofsted detailing the inspector's findings and have pleasure in sharing some of the main points with you.

This was our first inspection since November 2016 and we are pleased to report that Ofsted believes we are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at that time. The letter acknowledges the actions that the Trust and Academy leaders are taking to make rapid improvements and goes on to say that 'Evidence gathered at this inspection indicates that leaders are implementing and evaluating actions effectively'.

Ofsted recognised that leaders are improving the quality of education at school. New strategies for teaching such as consistent setting of objectives, applause moments and opportunities for collaborative learning were evident. In fact, when questioned by Ofsted, our students also said that they liked the new strategies and were able to say how they contribute to their learning and progress.

Northern Education Trust have made significant investment in the appointment of a number of new specialist subject directors and senior subject directors since the start of this academic year who are making a tremendous impact with the support and challenge they are providing to middle leaders in English, Maths and Humanities. As a result, middle leaders agree that their leadership skills and focus on strengthening teaching and learning are improving and that the school is more 'academically ambitious now'.

We are therefore delighted that Ofsted noticed the changes we have been making in teaching and learning along with overhauling the curriculum, implementing new performance tracking systems, creating an assessment calendar, developing a new tracking system for vulnerable pupils and providing bespoke support for underperforming students. All of these are combining to increase the pace of improvement.

In short, the findings reflect the many changes we have already made, and we are confident that we are well on our way to delivering sustainable improvement across every measure. We are focused on continuing along this path of school improvement to ensure that all students get the high standard of education they deserve at Thorp Academy.

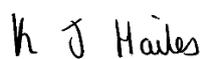
A full copy of the Section 8 inspection letter can be found on our Academy website.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Jordon
Executive Principal

Yours sincerely



Karen Hailes
Principal