



April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

OFSTED Report

After several weeks of waiting patiently, I am very pleased to be able to share with you our Ofsted report, the outcome of our first full Ofsted inspection.

As you know a team of inspectors spent two days at The High School Leckhampton in February and conducted a full graded inspection of the school. The inspectors carried out 'deep dives' in 6 curriculum areas - English, Science, History, Religious Studies, Modern Foreign Languages and PE. This involved rigorous scrutiny of our curriculum in these subjects, including how it is being implemented by the teachers and how well our pupils are learning it. They spoke to senior leaders, our curriculum leaders, teachers, and pupils in each of these subjects, as well as looking at pupil work - asking us all some very challenging questions! In addition, the inspectors carried out a thorough inspection of our approach to safeguarding, our personal development programme, our pastoral care, our provision for pupils with special education needs (SEND) and our approach to behaviour management. They met with groups of pupils to ask them what it was like to attend The High School Leckhampton, as well as asking staff about how well the school is run by senior leaders and the support and training that they receive. Further to this, they looked at the outcomes of Parent View, reading approximately 150 comments made by parents and carers, and read over 350 pupil surveys, and the staff questionnaire. Trustees and Governors were also questioned by the team. The inspectors observed an assembly, dropped into Maths, Art, DT, and Music lessons, and sampled some of our extra-curricular clubs. It really was a very rigorous inspection, and we felt that the inspectors left no stone unturned in gathering evidence upon which to base their judgements.

We are incredibly proud to say, The High School Leckhampton was judged to be '**Outstanding**' for its overall effectiveness. In coming to this overall judgement, the inspectors made the following additional gradings:

Quality of Education: *Outstanding*
Behaviour and Attitudes: *Outstanding*
Personal Development: *Outstanding*
Leadership and Management: *Outstanding*

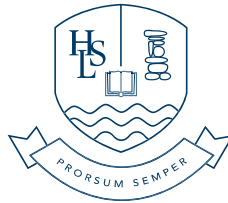
I hope when you read the full report (which is actually quite short in comparison to the amount of evidence gathered!), you feel it reflects the experiences of your child at our school.



Farm Lane, Leckhampton, Cheltenham GL51 3FS | Headteacher: [Mrs Helen Wood BA \(Hons\) NPQH](#)

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The High School
Leckhampton

Some particular highlights for me include the comments that capture the positive attitudes of our pupils, including that **'pupils are exceptionally proud to attend The High School Leckhampton,'** and that their **'behaviour and attitude are exemplary.'** We experience this positivity every day and it is a pleasure to work with your children - we are very proud of our fantastic pupils! I am also very pleased that the inspectors recognised the lengths staff go to in developing the whole child, in praising our **'extensive range of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities'** alongside our **'broad and highly ambitious curriculum.'** These observations are testament to the incredible dedication of the staff of The High School Leckhampton, who have worked tirelessly since we opened the school. Their skills and expertise have been rightly acknowledged by inspectors, who praise staff for enabling pupils to learn the curriculum **'exceptionally well'** and in recognising our **'relentless drive for excellence.'** I feel very fortunate to lead such a dedicated team of teachers and support staff, who are united by their commitment to the school - it is an absolute pleasure to work alongside them. I would also like to thank The Balcarras Trustees and The High School Leckhampton Governors, who have supported us on our journey and share in this success.

Receiving such high accolades in our first report is undoubtedly a significant moment in the school's history and at times like this, it is important to reflect on and celebrate what has been achieved - because this is a success for the whole community. Schools are very complex organisations - the culture and ethos of a school reflects the energy, attitude and engagement of all those involved in them - from the parental community, to the pupils, staff and governors. So, everyone associated with The High School Leckhampton - the whole community - should be very proud of this report. You have all played a part in creating and shaping our school and I would like to thank you, as parents and carers of the pupils, for your support and engagement with the school.

Finally, it is important to say, that whilst we are tremendously proud of our report, one thing is very true of all those involved in our school - we are never complacent. Schools never stand still. With your support we are looking forward to continually improving and developing The High School Leckhampton so it remains a school that you are proud to send your children to. As our motto so rightly says, *'Prorsum Semper'* - Always forward.

With warm wishes,

Headteacher



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