

12th June 2023

Dear Families,

I am writing to you regarding the inspection of the City of Peterborough Academy in February of this year.

While the quality of education has been graded Good, reflecting the strong educational outcomes pupils in the Academy achieve, the inspectors judged other areas within the school as Requires Improvement or Inadequate. It is with great disappointment to inform you that the Academy therefore received an overall rating of Inadequate.

We do not believe this outcome accurately reflects the educational achievements or commitment to creating a safe and supportive environment that the City of Peterborough Academy upholds. Please be assured that despite this, we do take these findings incredibly seriously and will continue to do everything we can to provide the best and safest possible educational experience for all pupils and staff.

Despite the overall rating, Ofsted did praise the Academy in various areas, with inspectors recognising that pupils are “well supported by the adults who care for them” and that “many pupils speak positively about the relationships they have with staff”. Additionally, “pupils are positive about the wide range of clubs and enrichment opportunities that are available”, appreciating the opportunities “to develop their skills in different activities like sports and performances”.

Additionally, our team has worked hard to develop a robust curriculum which helps pupils fulfil their potential. This was also noted by Ofsted, with inspectors commenting that pupils “benefit from lessons that are well planned and build on their prior learning” and that “teachers use assessment well to identify and address quickly any gaps in pupils’ understanding”.

We are, of course, concerned that Ofsted has reported a ‘significant minority of pupils do not respect others’ differences’ and as result some pupils feel ‘unsafe’. The team at the Academy has been working hard to support a small number of pupils who have struggled with the transition back to the Academy post-Covid and are focused on ensuring that all pupils feel safe and I must reiterate that Ofsted has judged pupils are safe.

Please do take some time to read the report, which will be available today on the Academy's website, and if you have any questions or concerns, we will be organising a parent forum event in the near future, giving you the opportunity to meet with senior leaders from the Academy and Trust to discuss these further.

Thank you, as always, for the vital role you play in our success and in continuing to help make the Academy a wonderful learning community.

Yours sincerely,



Ben Pearce  
Principal



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