



King Edward VII School

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Dear Parent/Carer

OFSTED Inspection 2022 – important information

King Edward VII School, the only remaining Local Authority secondary school in Sheffield, was subjected to an ungraded, urgent inspection in September 2022 prompted by a single complaint made by a parent to OFSTED about alleged bullying. On day one of the inspection, after the morning sessions, the Lead Inspector informed me that bullying was not an issue in the School. However, the inspection team raised other 'concerns' and converted the ungraded inspection to a graded inspection on day two.

The Leadership Team and the Governing Board were completely shocked by a number of the judgements that have been made about the School by the OFSTED inspection team.

We want you to be aware of the School's position. We also want you to know that we are taking appropriate action to contest these judgements because we are unclear about how these judgements have been reached by OFSTED.

In light of the above, there is a very real risk that the Department for Education and the Local Authority will force King Edward VII School to become an academy as part of a larger chain of schools.

King Edward VII School is a strong, diverse, inclusive, successful School as demonstrated by, amongst other things:

- the overwhelmingly positive feedback provided to OFSTED by students, parents, carers and staff through the OFSTED surveys
- the fact that the results for students, overall, are consistently good
- the fact that we send more students to Oxford and Cambridge than any other school in the region
- the fact that we continue to provide extensive extra-curricular opportunities for our students
- the fact that we put student safety, wellbeing and happiness at the heart of all that we do

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We do not believe or accept that a number of the judgements made about our School are accurate or fair and it is important that you are aware of this.

As always, we value your support, as parents and carers, because it is an essential part of the ongoing success of the School. We hope we can rely on your support as we move forward as a School community.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Linda Gooden in cursive script.

Ms Linda Gooden
Headteacher

Handwritten signature of Peter Dickson in cursive script.

Dr Peter Dickson
Chair of the Governing Board