

November 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

It is with pleasure that I present a summary of our annual report to parents on the academic year 2016-2017. The report is available electronically on the school website and each highlighted section below can be clicked upon to provide further information.

During the academic year 2016-17 the **school was inspected by Estyn**. On the basis of this the school prepared a **Post Inspection Action Plan** which includes the responses to the recommendations made by the inspectorate. In addition, in conjunction with **Governors**, the school has formulated a School Development and Improvement Plan which encompasses ten overarching priorities:

- Improving standards across the school;
- Improve the provision of pupils' skills in literacy, numeracy and digital competence;
- Improve the quality and impact of teaching, tracking and assessment;
- Strengthen roles and responsibilities at all levels of leadership;
- Strengthen the school's self-evaluation and improvement planning processes;
- Improve aspects of the school site;
- Have clear expectations of all students to improve attitude to learning and standard of work;
- Ensure that marking is sufficiently diagnostic and provide high quality feedback;
- Improve pastoral system to effect better provision for care, support and guidance;
- Improve provision for all to meet the needs of all learners.

Despite challenging financial circumstances, the school continues to operate a balanced **budget**. This requires the judicious utilisation of resources and management of **staff** and department capitation. This year the school has once again achieved a full staffing complement, including the appointment of our new Headteacher, Mr. Simon Budgen.

The summer of 2017 was a successful one owing to our positive **examination results**. GCSE results were once again above local and national averages and demonstrate a continually improving picture despite complex changes to the national school performance measures. We were especially pleased to note the destinations of **school leavers** and those that secured **university placements**.

Student **attendance** to school improved last year to 95.2%, however, I know that the senior leadership team are concerned about the frequency of absences from school which can have a detrimental impact upon a student's chance of academic success.

The academic year 2017-18 is now well underway and I'm sure you have seen first-hand the many changes that have been introduced. The **school prospectus** has been published which contains important information such as term dates, curriculum organisation, safeguarding procedures and approaches to the wellbeing of students. I also note the many and varied **extra-curricular activities** that are available to students and would encourage participation in these valuable activities.

The school has also prepared an appendix to this report with **other information** that the Governing Body is required to communicate to parents on an annual basis.

I hope that you find this report informative.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Angell.' with a period at the end. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Cllr. Mrs. Joyce Angell
Chair of the Governing Body