

06 September 2012

GRADE 1: 'OUTSTANDING' OFSTED REPORT

Dear Parent/Carer

As you all know, we had our Ofsted Inspection on the 4th and 5th July 2012 and we are delighted to have achieved our third 'Outstanding' result in succession. A copy of the report is available on the Ofsted website http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/102240, on 'My Child at School' at www.mychildatschool.com or on the College website at www.rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk. Students have also received a separate letter from the HMI, Trevor Riddiough.

I hope that you will agree that the report is fantastic and reflects the hard work and dedication of the staff, students and parents at Rooks Heath. I am particularly proud that the HMI acknowledges the warm interaction between staff and students when he says in his letter to students, "there are excellent relationships between yourselves and your teachers." He also recognises that students are making, "exceptional progress" and that the college is, "extremely well led by a team of leaders who are determined to ensure that it provides the best for everyone."

To achieve an 'Outstanding' grade is a brilliant achievement. Our 2005 report was classed as "Excellent" (grade 1). In 2008 we achieved a further grade 1 'Outstanding' report. In 2012 we are one of a very small percentage of schools nationally, to have achieved our third 'Outstanding' (grade 1) in a row. Throughout this time I consider myself privileged to be the Headteacher at Rooks Heath and I am extremely proud of the achievements and commitment of the staff and students. I would like to thank all parents, students and every single member of staff who works or volunteers at the College. I would also like to thank the governors and especially the Chair of Governors, Ms Pauline Hughes, for working together to achieve this incredible accolade.

As you can see from the report, and the grades given to the College, we have continued to achieve tremendous success across all areas of the College resulting in the highest possible grade across the board for achievement, quality of teaching, behaviour and safety and leadership and management. I have always felt, in my thirteen years as Headteacher at Rooks Heath, that we have a unique college that is special because it benefits from a rich ethnic and cultural diversity, a dedicated staff committed to the needs of individuals and each other, and a family atmosphere that encourages a safe and positive learning environment with "a highly effective pastoral system". To have Ofsted confirm this and to have comments from parents saying that Rooks Heath provides "a safe maturing and challenging environment" with children feeling "lucky to be part of the Rooks Heath family" is a wonderful achievement.

As a College, we recognise that there is always room for improvement and we will take the advice given by Ofsted. We will extend the proportion of outstanding teaching through the creation of opportunities to develop independent learning skills in all lessons. We will continue to work hard to ensure that the standard of teaching is outstanding across the College and aim to raise sixth form attainment levels across all subject areas. In this wonderful Olympic and Paralympic inspirational year of achievement, this fantastic Ofsted report will inspire us to do even better for our students in the future.

I hope that you will share in the pride that the staff and students feel as a result of what we have achieved over the last decade. On behalf of the whole College, may I wish you and your family a warm welcome back to Rooks Heath and thank you again for supporting the College and helping us to achieve this remarkable success.

Yours sincerely

Dr John Reavley Headteacher

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