

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & Sixth Form Update on this week's Ofsted inspection

On Tuesday 28th January 2025 we welcomed a team of three Inspectors from Ofsted into our school to carry out a two day inspection under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended). Our last graded inspection was in 2020 and as a GOOD school, we can expect to be re-inspected about every four years. The inspection team set out very clearly at the start exactly what they wish to see and who they wish to meet with during the two days of the inspection. We sent out a notice to parents earlier in the week that included an Ofsted guide which explains in more detail the framework around how inspections are structured.

Over the two days of the inspection, the team took a close look at all aspects of how school runs and the experience of children here. They looked carefully at how children are kept safe in school and how the curriculum is set out to ensure that learning is well structured and consistent. During this inspection, they also focused on how we manage learning for children with special educational needs. In order to do this, the inspection team gathered lots of information and data. They met with various staff members and groups. They also spent time with students across all year groups, assessed workbooks, attended assemblies and observed lessons in a range of subjects. The inspection team spoke with external partners about our school and worked through a significant amount of data relating to the views of students, parents and staff. It was a very packed schedule.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the inspection be that in person or by completing the online questionnaires. All of this information is looked at and triangulated to form a view about our school so it was really important to hear what everyone had to say. I'm reminded constantly about how engaged all members of our school community are in trying to get the very best outcomes for our children. I think I speak for everyone when I say that it has been a very positive but challenging experience.

I would like to place on record my thanks to the inspection team for the very constructive, thorough and professional manner in which the inspection has been carried out.

This was an ungraded inspection which means that our overall rating of GOOD isn't expected to change but we will be able to focus our actions on continuing to improve. We will now wait to receive a report outlining the findings and recommendations from Ofsted. When the final report is published, I will ensure that it is made available to everyone.

Nigel Bielby
Executive Headteacher

