

Exmouth Community College

Academy Trust

Principal: A J Davis BSc(Hons), PGCPSE, NPQH



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Our ref: AJD/JEP

March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you to everyone that attended one of the recent series of parent and carer meetings following our inspection back in November.

We were really pleased with the number of parents and carers that attended and the quality of questions alongside thoughtful discussion that followed each presentation.

My presentation firstly touched on the many strengths outlined in the report which included:

- Student behaviour and safeguarding
- Standards of education in Post 16
- Teachers are well motivated
- Teacher subject knowledge is good
- Teachers and Teaching Assistants have positive relationships with their classes
- Results and practice across a wide range of subjects was identified as good including:
 - REACH Centre
 - Careers Education and Guidance
 - Extra-curricular opportunities
 - Special Educational Needs
 - the Discovery Curriculum
 - great practice across a wide range of departments, for example in English where 'when studying 'To Kill a Mockingbird', English teachers skilfully develop pupils' empathy for people from different backgrounds'.

The presentation then moved to areas which required further development and, in particular, this related to improving the consistency of teaching and learning and also reflected on leadership and management within the College. As the new Principal I am able to reassure parents and carers that there is now a robust plan in place which includes agreeing classroom expectations, improved professional

development, better use of data to track all individual students, more robust monitoring procedures and more sharing of good practice between ourselves and other schools. There were also some in depth discussions about the accountability measure, Progress 8, which OFSTED use to judge us and which will have an impact on the future curriculum we offer from Year 10 next year.

In terms of leadership and management we have again been clear about our expectations of this role, joined two Teaching School Alliances to gain insight into the practice of other schools and employed Specialist Leaders of Education to provide additional capacity for staff.

Finally, we discussed the need for students to become more confident in speaking about their learning and to develop greater resilience when learning becomes difficult. As a result of this we are now redesigning our Personal Development Programme for students to reflect these changed priorities.

The evening concluded with a question and answer session for the Principal, Chair of Governors and members of the Senior Leadership Team. Feedback from those who attended appeared to be positive and hopefully reassured parents and carers that the OFSTED judgement was more about where we were last year, not where we will be in the future. Certainly, having now observed most teachers at the College, I can see their huge commitment to the students, alongside a great deal of skill in the classroom across all subjects, which bodes very well for the future of the College. I have every confidence that the staff here will deliver great results for students over the years to come.

If you would like a copy of the presentation please contact Mrs Proctor, my PA, on the email address below.

On the evening we mentioned that we would like to improve communication with parents and carers through regular parent forums. If you would like to be part of these events in the future please register your interest with Julie Proctor, Principal's PA via the email address; Julie.proctor@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk.

Many thanks once again to all those who attended.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Davis
Principal