Hellesdon High School & Sixth Form Centre

Enjoy | Achieve | Succeed

Hellesdon High School
187 Middletons Lane
Norwich, NR65SB
www.wensumtrust.org.uk/hellesdonhigh
01603 424711
info@hellesdon.net

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted Report

I am pleased to share our recent Ofsted report from our inspection on the 6th and 7th October 2026. We are delighted that this report recognises our school as an inclusive and supportive community where every pupil is valued, encouraged and challenged to succeed. Inspectors have highlighted the strong relationships between staff and pupils, the calm and orderly environment we have created, and the high-quality pastoral support that helps young people feel safe and confident in school. We are particularly pleased that the report reflects our ambition for every pupil to 'enjoy, achieve and succeed', regardless of their background or starting point. This outcome is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the support of our families and, most importantly, the hard work and positive attitude of our students.

Our Post-16 provision continues to offer supportive academic and vocational pathways. Vocational results exceed national averages with strong student progress, while A-level value-added scores perform above national averages.

The report commended leadership for maintaining "high expectations for all pupils" and demonstrating a "strong understanding of the needs of vulnerable groups". Inspectors also observed that leaders "work proactively to remove barriers to learning so that pupils can achieve alongside their peers," ensuring that disadvantaged students and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) benefit from targeted support.

Academic provision is underpinned by a "broad and increasingly ambitious curriculum" that effectively meets the needs of students, and inspectors observed that pupils "settle quickly, follow routines and engage positively with their learning". This is further enriched by a wide range of clubs, educational visits, performances and careers activities that encourage full participation in school life.

While celebrating these strengths, the inspection report concurs with our own findings that achievement at KS4 needs attention. We are fully committed to driving further improvements to help our students' close gaps in their learning through targeted intervention, continuing to address barriers to regular attendance and helping our students to build independence and resilience.

Ofsted inspectors reported that, "parents are overwhelmingly positive about the school's caring ethos, dedicated staff, strong pastoral support and the opportunities provided for their children". We want to express our sincere gratitude to our students, dedicated staff, and parent community whose ongoing partnership enables our school to grow and thrive.

Warm regards

Helen Watts
Executive Principal