



WADE DEACON HIGH SCHOOL

Wade Deacon High School
Birchfield Rd, Widnes WA8 7TD
Tel: 0151 423 2721
Email: school@wadedeacon.co.uk
Web: wadedeacon.co.uk

Mr S Corner
Principal MA, PGCE, NPQH

Dear Parents / Carers,

20th January 2023

You will be aware that on 29 and 30 November, we had the long-awaited call from Ofsted. The school was last inspected in 2011 and the visit was long over-due. As the school had not been inspected in over 10 years, the process was an extremely rigorous one where a team of 6 Inspectors visited lessons, spoke to staff, pupils and governors whilst scrutinising our whole school curriculum and the quality of education on offer. We are now in a position to share with you the outcome of our full Section 5 Graded Inspection. A copy of the full report has been attached on Synergy and is also available on our website.

We are extremely proud to inform you that the overall judgement under the new Ofsted framework is that Wade Deacon High School is an **'OUTSTANDING'** school.

The summary evaluation of the Inspection is as follows:

Overall Effectiveness:	Outstanding
The Quality of Education:	Outstanding
Behaviour and Attitudes:	Outstanding
Personal Development:	Outstanding
Leadership & Management:	Outstanding

The report is overwhelmingly positive and celebrates our wonderful pupils, staff and the exceptional school that serves the local community. It highlights that **'pupils' behaviour around the school is exemplary'** and that pupils are **'extremely happy'** where they can **'thrive'** and **'relish the opportunities that staff provide for them.'** This is made possible because **'the quality of pastoral support available to pupils is a key strength'** and issues in school are dealt with **'swiftly and effectively'** by staff. Furthermore, **'Leaders have very high expectations'** and as a result, pupils **'benefit from a first-rate education'** and an **'aspirational curriculum.'**

Strong praise was also given to teachers who **'skilfully use their strong subject knowledge to deliver the curriculum expertly well'** which results in pupils having a **'deep grasp of the content of subject curriculums'** which leads to an **'air of scholarly excellence.'** The school was also celebrated for its inclusion with the report stating that **'teachers skilfully adapt the delivery of subject curriculums for pupils with SEND'**. Consequently, this leads to all pupils with SEND accessing **'the same ambitious curriculum as their peers. They are fully included in school life and achieve very highly.'**

We are especially proud of the feedback we received from Inspectors about our pupils; Inspectors repeatedly praised your children, telling us that they **'behave impeccably well'** and that they **'respect the uniqueness of individual people.'** Whilst we know as a school that this is true of our pupils, it is always wonderful to hear such positive affirmations from external visitors.

Under the new inspection framework, it is extremely rare for a school to be graded 'Outstanding' in all areas especially those, like us, who have not been inspected for over 10 years. Even more pleasingly, Wade Deacon High School is one of the few state schools in England who have kept their 'Outstanding' grade – according to statistics from Ofsted only 17% of 370 'Outstanding' schools have kept their ranking. The fact that Wade Deacon High School is part of that statistic is a phenomenal success for the school, our pupils and the local community in Widnes. Whilst we have always known how truly exceptional our school is, we are delighted to have had this confirmed.

We are especially proud of the journey that the school has been on over the last six years. As a school, we have worked incredibly hard to maintain our high standards and 'A Commitment to Excellence'. Please be reassured that despite this excellent feedback, we will continue to grow and evolve as a school so that we can further enhance the quality of education for our students.

Undoubtedly, all of this has been achieved with a significant amount of hard work from pupils, parents, staff and governors and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all members of our school community on this amazing achievement. As parents / carers, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you for everything that you do to support our school – a result like this would not be possible without it.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Corner', written in a cursive style.

Simon Corner
Principal