



10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

## OFSTED REPORT

I am writing to inform you that Ofsted have now published our Inspection Report and it is available to view on our school website should you so wish to do so.

There is much to celebrate, with many positive comments made; the **Outstanding** Sixth Form grade, **Outstanding** grade for Welfare and Safety and **Good** in all other categories is a real accolade to our school community and the outcome of a great deal of hard work by staff and Governors, and tremendous support from you and your child.

I have extracted some comments below.

- The Headteacher, senior leaders, Governors and staff are highly ambitious for the school and its pupils. They share the same high aspirations and expect the most from themselves and their pupils. This creates a real sense of purpose and puts the interests of pupils first. As a result, leadership has a strong impact on pupils' learning and their life chances.
- Middle leaders are equally ambitious for their subject and have a clear understanding of the school's priorities. They are held to account for performance in their area and supported effectively by senior leaders in equal measure. Inspectors were struck by the morale of staff who say that leaders, including the Headteacher, are approachable and supportive.
- Teachers' subject knowledge is strong and they use this to explain the task and clarify new or difficult concepts. This ensures that pupils understand what is expected of them. It also helps to create a very positive learning climate in classrooms. Pupils respond especially well to the work and their teachers. They are highly motivated, industrious and take pride in their work. These attitudes contribute significantly to pupils' learning.
- Teachers have high expectations of pupils and translate these into well-planned programmes and challenging work.
- The quality of support provided by additional adults in classrooms is often first-rate. Teaching assistants and support staff are well briefed by teachers and work effectively with those pupils who need extra support. Consequently, they have a positive impact on pupils' achievements.
- Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted very effectively. The school's Catholic ethos provides a clear moral and spiritual framework and underpins the school's approach to developing pupils' personal skills and an understanding of the wider society.
- Students are confident learners and conduct themselves extremely well in lessons and around the school. They are encouraged to develop their social and personal skills most effectively through the wide range of opportunities to get involved in the life of the school.

I am also delighted to inform you that Cardinal Pole received over 500 applications for September 2017 for 180 places and remains oversubscribed. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Ms J Heffernan  
**HEADTEACHER**