



Don Valley

Academy & Performing Arts College

U:BER:LETTERS/OFSTED.DEC2014

15th December 2014

Dear Parents/Carers

In December 2012 Don Valley Academy was judged to be 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted. However in the subsequent years results have varied and the improvement in headline figures has not been maintained.

On 5th and 6th November 2014, Ofsted inspectors again visited the Academy. The final report has now been published and we are in a position to inform you that it will very shortly be in the public domain. Due to Ofsted procedures and regulations we have not been able to make any comment up until now.

The inspection team judged that students were not seen to achieve to their academic potential. As a consequence, and based upon the latest Ofsted framework, the inspectors concluded that Don Valley should be placed into "Special Measures" to achieve the necessary improvements as quickly as possible. We are clearly very disappointed with this outcome but we have to acknowledge that the achievement of students by the time they leave at the end of Key Stage 4 requires improvement.

The inspectors acknowledged that as Principal, I have clear expectations and new procedures in place to make rapid improvements. These changes are already in place and being embedded by all staff. The Education Advisory Board (EAB) and staff are fully committed in addressing the issues and action points raised in the report, and Don Valley will make the required progress by summer 2015.

We know from the Ofsted Parent View survey that we have the support of our parents. Indeed, 98% of parents say their child is happy at the Academy, 92% state their child is taught well and 92% believe their child makes good progress at Don Valley. Finally, 92% of parents who completed the online survey say they would recommend Don Valley to another parent.

The Academy is a vital part of the community and we ask you to judge us on your own experience and what you really know of us. If you need any reassurance about the work of the Academy we are always happy to show parents and visitors around by appointment.

We welcome your comments about the report or you are welcome to attend a meeting for current parents on Wednesday 7th January at 5.00 p.m. in the Lower School Hall. If you would like to attend, please return the reply slip to the academy or alternatively, email to: EdgarB@donvalleyacademy.org.uk

The staff at Don Valley believe in this school. We are working hard to address the issues identified in the report and are committed to making the necessary improvements as quickly as possible. We want you to know that we will do everything we can to ensure all students achieve their potential. Our current forecast data strongly indicates we can expect significantly improved GCSE results this summer and we will be able to show the school is moving in the right direction. I am very positive about the future.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to the students. They are such good ambassadors for the Academy and their community and we were very proud of the way they welcomed the inspectors.

A copy of the full Ofsted report will be available on the Academy website from Monday 15th December. You will also be able to access the report at www.ofsted.gov.uk from Wednesday 17th December. Alternatively, a paper copy will be available from the Academy reception. You can also find details of our Improvement Plan on the Don Valley Website from Wednesday 17th December.

Yours sincerely

K. Squire (Mrs)
Principal

REPLY SLIP

Don Valley Academy

Ofsted Inspection Meeting - Wednesday 7th January 2015
Lower School Hall – 5.00 p.m.

I/We will be attending the meeting.

Please print the name(s) of those attending

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If you have a specific question regarding the Ofsted Inspection Report that you would like to raise, please detail below or via email to EdgarB@donvalleyacademy.org.uk. This will enable us to prepare for the meeting and answer as many parental questions as possible.

Question(s)

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Please note: The meeting is for parents of students currently on roll at Don Valley Academy.

Please return this slip to Mrs B Edgar, Principal's P.A. Thank you.