

16<sup>th</sup> December 2024

On Track Education Westbury school has recently received a report following the Ofsted inspections in June and October 2024.

The final report is a disappointing one for the school. In the early part of the 2024 academic year the new school leaders had already identified a development plan for the setting and had been proactively addressing any underlying issues over the past months, They had already implemented many improvements and had been making substantial progress. In response to the June inspection the school and governing body had further intensified development plans to ensure rapid and sustainable changes at the school.

A new leadership team under the direction of Chris Gillam (Head Teacher) and Rachel Edwards (Deputy Head Teacher) has become well established in recent months and the school continues on a rapid upward trajectory. We recognise that the transition from a long established Head Teacher, and an increasingly robust inspection framework, was going to lead to some challenges as the school implemented improvement plans over the past year. However, our own judgements were some way off those found by Ofsted on the days they visited us in the summer, in many areas. With 9 schools and a very large number of Ofsted inspections within our organisation this is rare.

Ofsted have been quick to reassure us that what was observed in June was a subjective judgement of one point in time. In October we had a further opportunity to meet with inspectors who found a rather different picture in those areas they revisited. Inspectors were able to positively identify a school in the process of significant improvement and change. Unfortunately, this revisit did not consider all those areas which the June inspectors found inadequate and, although this has been raised with Ofsted, no further visits will be made and the June inspection is now deemed to be complete.

Directors and school leaders still believe that the Ofsted report is inaccurate, that evidence is dated, insecure and based on subjective judgements. We have raised with Ofsted that we felt our vision of ethos of support and nurture were not fully appreciated, or understood, by the June inspection team. The October inspectors observed that the quality of education and personal development was far more positive and meaningful than the June inspectors' commentary reflected.

The leadership team is working closely with Directors and other agencies to ensure that the school remains a safe and secure environment. The development plan is robust and will ensure that all improvements deemed to be necessary are being effectively and rapidly implemented. Since the June Ofsted inspection, two local authority safeguarding audits

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have confirmed that safeguarding is effective. The school is a safe and happy place for young people; progress is being made in all areas of development; plans and governance is robust.

**In conclusion**

- The school is a safe, nurturing and secure place and has had additional external validation to support this.
- There is a clear plan in place, which is currently being implemented, to ensure further rapid improvement in all areas.
- Pupils are being effectively nurtured and supported, and are making positive progress.
- Further local authority independent quality assurance and safeguarding effectiveness reviews have been commissioned (in addition to what has already been carried out) to ensure nothing is being missed and all possible actions are being taken.

We appreciate that this may be a worrying time for parents and carers who may have concerns and questions. The school will be happy to work with any of you on an individual basis to provide direct assurance about the positive changes and actions in place. We have a skilled and passionate leadership and staff team who are committed to providing the best possible offer to all pupils. We have a clear plan to ensure improvements continue.



Jane Cox  
Director

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