

## **PUBLICATION OF THE OFSTED INSPECTION REPORT**

The report from the OFSTED Inspection Team will be made public shortly and will be available through the OFSTED website (see below).

**We were pleased to see that the inspection team recognised many of the key strengths of the school including:**

- Good progress and effective teaching in English
- Ensuring students are well cared for and are safe
- Good student behaviour
- Effective support and good progress for SEN and students with disabilities
- Catch up programmes for literacy and numeracy in KS3 that students value
- Attendance in line with national standards
- A successful curriculum model
- Structured feedback that helps students to improve their work
- Teaching Assistants who support students and encourage them to be independent
- Hardworking, enthusiastic leaders with a clear understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses, effective quality assurance and appropriate priorities for improvement
- Loyal Governors and effective support from Invictus Education Trust
- Good work to support students' spiritual, moral, cultural and social development
- Opportunities to attend clubs and sporting activities, trips abroad and visits
- Effective support for progression to further education or training

**The team also identified a number of areas where the school needs to improve including:**

- Maths – where progress at the end of this year needs to match the school's prediction of being better than national averages
- The performance of Pupil Premium/Disadvantaged students which is improving but still lower than that of their peers and other students nationally
- Ensuring that all lessons are as good as the best so that in all lessons students are completing challenging work, are enjoying learning and are working hard throughout the lesson
- Ensuring students make good progress in all Sixth Form subjects; including those aiming for the highest grades
- Making sure that staff, students and parents understand the new STEPS system at Key Stage 3
- Working to ensure that all teaching is as good as the best and leads to good outcomes for all students

We are reassured that the inspection team recognised that we have set the right priorities for improvement and are making progress with these, however we were disappointed that at the time of the inspection we were unable to show enough evidence of the impact of the work we are doing for the inspectors to be able to judge provision as 'good' in all areas.

As a result the overall judgement was that at present Ounsdale is a school that 'requires improvement'

We are continuing to work on the priorities that we have set this year and in response to the findings of the team, are sharply focussing on those areas that will have most impact and will ensure that the school can move rapidly to a 'good' judgement. These actions are:

1. Focussing on ensuring this year's results for Y11 and Y13 are as good as they can possibly be and show that students are making good progress
2. Working with staff to develop the quality of teaching – in particular to ensure the work is pitched at the right level, engagement is good throughout the lesson and students are working hard
3. Working with teaching and pastoral staff to develop strategies to teach and support disadvantaged students, particularly in the classroom, but also in terms of improving attendance and addressing barriers to learning.
4. Implementing and embedding our improvement plans for specific subject areas

A copy of the inspection report can be accessed from the OFSTED website:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>