



# **Whole School Review**

## **Rugby High School**

**21-22 January 2014**

This consultative review was carried out by Incyte Ltd. The review is based on the revised Ofsted framework for Section 5 January 2014, inspection of schools, the criteria in the school inspection handbook and the January 2014 subsidiary guidance.

---

## Introduction

### Review team

Caroline McKee	Lead Reviewer
Deborah Wring	Team Reviewer
Maurice Hicks	Team Reviewer

This review was carried out over a two day period.

The purpose of the review/mock inspection was to help support the school's self-evaluation, to test out its judgements and to provide feedback on how well provision and outcomes measure up to the demands of the revised Ofsted Framework (January 2014). A key purpose was also to provide feedback to staff on their teaching linked to the quality of learning and how they could improve.

Rugby High School is an 'all girls' selective school. Attainment on entry to the school is significantly above the national average with very few middle and lower attaining students. There are arrangements with another local sixth form for students to study courses in each other's schools. As part of the review, 35 parts of lessons were sampled by the Incyte team, all jointly with members of the senior leadership team and some middle leaders. A range of documents were scrutinised along with a wide range of data on progress, attainment, attendance and behaviour, including exclusions. The school's evidence of quality assurance was also analysed. The team met with students, staff with key responsibilities and members of the governing body. Students' books were scrutinised in lessons and marking observed. A letter from an interested party was also read and their views were taken into consideration. The lead reviewer had a conversation with the school's quality assurance partner.

In the school's previous Ofsted Inspection, December 2008, it was judged to be outstanding overall.

## Review Findings

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Achievement of pupils</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Quality of teaching</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Behaviour and safety of pupils</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Leadership and management</b>	<b>1</b>

### Context

The school commissioned this mock inspection/consultative review so that all staff would be well prepared for an inspection, there would be validation of the school's work and so that key leadership skills would be developed at all levels. The review team, in conjunction and agreement with the leadership team, found that the school provides an outstanding provision which results in outstanding achievement for the students, both academically and in their personal development.

### Summary Report

This is an outstanding school because:

- Attainment and progress, in all measurable indicators, are consistently, significantly above the national averages and continue to improve.
- Achievement in the sixth form is building rapidly because of the careful intervention and support that is given to those students who need additional help to meet the demands and rigour of their courses.
- The school provides a rich and varied curriculum that stimulates individuality, curiosity and prepares the students exceptionally well for their future lives in education and the wider community.
- Teaching is outstanding in the majority of lessons which leads to these outstanding outcomes. The teachers' love of their subject and high level of knowledge is an important, contributing factor.
- The relationships between the students and adults in the school are exceptional. The level of maturity and good humour that exists play a major part in enabling high levels of discussion to enhance their learning.
- The students' behaviour is outstanding both around the school and in lessons. They like to take the initiative and drive their own learning. They are noticeably supportive of one another and seek opportunities to help each other and those who are less fortunate than themselves. The amount of money raised for charities is astounding.
- The leadership team, including middle leaders seek to evaluate and improve at all times. They are reflective, work with integrity and look to enhance working conditions for all staff. They not only influence work in the local area but also at a national level.
- The school is data rich, but does not always present this in its best light to show case its outstanding achievements.
- Parents, staff and students are overwhelmingly supportive of the school. This is reflected in surveys and in discussions. Any slight areas of concern are addressed rapidly. The school is keen to hear views to help support improvement.
- The safeguarding meets statutory requirements and students feel very safe at school and

well prepared to deal with any issues that they might meet in a wider community.

The school recognises that they need to further build on their successes and to do so will need to:

- Strengthen governance so that it meets the increasing requirements set out in the latest Ofsted schedule.
- Ensure that all teachers provide a wide range of activities so that individual students can make outstanding progress from their own starting points.
- Ensure that all leaders are able to present their data to show progress over time to include past results, current data and predicted data.