

17<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

It is with enormous pleasure that I write to share the fantastic news that our school has been rated 'Good' by Ofsted. This is Brannel School's best grading since 2010!

This fantastic news follows a rigorous two day Ofsted inspection, involving five inspectors, which as you know took place shortly before the Easter break.

I am delighted that Ofsted has recognised all the excellent work going on here at Brannel and what a 'strong sense of being part of a community' there is. The inspectors noted how the school is ambitious for its pupils and that there is a shared vision for pupils to achieve highly and develop strength of character during their time at Brannel School.

We could not have achieved this without your support, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, your fantastic children and our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment, which has helped to make Brannel such an amazing place to learn, work and succeed.

The report highlights many key strengths of our school. Some areas that make us particularly proud include:

- Pupils follow an exciting curriculum. Alongside learning a range of subjects, they also participate in the weekly 'Brannel Challenge' as part of their personal development programme
- Pupils have opportunities to broaden their horizons and raise their ambitions, for example with a Year 10 trip to Exeter University
- Pupils feel safe and say they are happy at school. Leaders model the high expectations they have of pupils. As a result, there is a calm and positive atmosphere around the school site
- Leaders across most subjects have created an ambitious and varied curriculum. They have thought carefully about how pupils should learn important knowledge. This allows pupils to build their knowledge well over time
- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are fully included in the life of the school. Teachers receive suitable training and know the needs of their pupils well
- The school provides an excellent range of career opportunities for pupils from all year groups
- There are many extra-curricular activities available for pupils to take part in. Leaders provide some of these within the school day to ensure that pupils who travel by bus can also take part
- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know pupils well and form strong relationships. Pupils spoken to by inspectors say they feel safe and have a trusted adult in school they can talk to if they have a concern
- Those responsible for governance understand the vision of the school. They support and challenge senior leaders well. Staff are proud to work at this school.

Of course, as ever, there are areas for us to improve, and a full copy of the report from Ofsted is included with this letter.

I am extremely proud of everything that we have been able to achieve here at Brannel School. With your help, I look forward to the school continuing its strong upward trajectory, as we work towards becoming an "Outstanding" school. We pledge to continue to help all our students to achieve excellence and to inspire the wider community.

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With very best wishes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Liles', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mr C Liles  
Headteacher