



# Starbank School

Dear Parent/Carer,

As many of you will be aware Ofsted visited the school at the end of the summer term. This was an unannounced Ofsted Inspection due to the negative media and press attention that we received. I am saddened and deeply disappointed that Ofsted have now judged the school to be Inadequate. Like myself, many of you have been a part of the school community for a long time and will be aware of how committed and dedicated our staff are to improving the life chances of our students. We have always had high expectations and aspirations for our students and families and this will remain to be the case. A copy of the report is enclosed in the envelope, it will also be published on the Ofsted website on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Although, the overall judgement is disheartening the report comments positively about the primary provision and highlights the many Good aspects of this phase, it is within our secondary part of the school where greater improvement is required. To this end, we have already taken many actions by adding further leadership capacity to the school and refining secondary policies and approaches. We are absolutely determined to address the areas of concern and ensure that all of our students receive the best quality education. Many of you will know that once this report is released in the public domain it may prove to be a difficult time for our school community and we will need to work together to ensure that we remain focused on the wellbeing and welfare of our students and staff. Unfortunately, a judgement such as this begins to 'label' and we will need to do everything we can to demonstrate all the good practice that we already have at the school. Later on this term, there will be an opportunity for all of our parents to attend meetings held by myself and the leadership team to share and discuss our plans in moving forward.

Finally, can I thank you for all the support and strength that many of you have shown over the last few months. It is with this kind of community cohesion and positivity that we will overcome this challenging period. It is crucial for us all to remember that it is our children that are at the heart of everything we do.

Yours Sincerely

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