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2 November 2011

Ms J Sheriff  
Headteacher  
Otley Prince Henry's Grammar School  
Specialist Language College  
Farnley Lane  
Otley  
LS21 2BB

Dear Ms Sheriff

### **Ofsted 2011–12 survey inspection programme: a review of anti-bullying practice in schools**

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and students, during my visit on 18 October 2011 as part of our survey of schools' work to create a positive school culture and prevent and tackle bullying.

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our national evaluation and reporting. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing institutions but individual institutions will not be identified in the main text without their consent.

This letter briefly summarises our discussion at the end of the visit.

#### **Strengths of this aspect of the school's work**

- The excellent vision, drive, passion and commitment of senior leaders has created a harmonious and inclusive school community in which differences are valued and students show high levels of acceptance and tolerance for others.
- The involvement and commitment of parents and carers, students, governors and all staff have enabled the zero tolerance of prejudice-based language such as homophobic language to be introduced and reinforced highly effectively. All staff have been trained in how to identify, record, report and tackle incidents. Staff new to the school and initial teacher training students are inducted into the school's ethos and are provided with information about how to tackle prejudice-based incidents. Visitors to the school are provided with a guide which clearly outlines the school's expectations in promoting equality and celebrating diversity.
- Students have a very clear understanding of the staff's expectations of behaviour and how these link to the consistently applied rewards and sanctions systems. They are confident that actions are taken effectively and swiftly to tackle all forms of bullying. Students feel confident to seek

help from a wide range of adults if they need it, for example through confidential text messaging.

- Staff are not afraid to tackle issues around diversity. The curriculum has been enhanced to enable students to learn about the impact and effects of different types of bullying. The diversity festival, visiting theatre group and visiting sport groups such as 'Pride Games' have provided students with valuable insight into what it is like to be in a minority or in one of the diversity groups.

**Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:**

- reviewing policies, procedures and the curriculum to ensure that students are aware of issues relating to transgender (gender dysphoria).

I hope that this visit has been useful in the further development of this aspect of the school's work.

As I explained previously, a copy of this letter will be published on the Ofsted website. It may be used to inform decisions about any future inspection. A copy of this letter is also being sent to your local authority.

Yours sincerely

**Allan Torr**  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**