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Ms Rachel Davies  
Principal and Chief Executive  
Somerset College of Arts and Technology  
Wellington Road  
Taunton  
TA1 5AX

Dear Ms Davies

Ofsted survey inspection programme – 14-19 reforms

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff and students during my visit on Tuesday 27 November 2007 as part of our survey on 14-19 developments in the local area. I enjoyed visiting the college.

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.

Somerset College is inclusive and has developed its curriculum appropriately to successfully meet the needs and interests of young people in the local area. This includes the development of courses below level 3 as well as its higher education (HE) work. The partnership with the Taunton Centre PRU is an example of effective partnership working and good support for young people.

The support and leadership provided by the college to its partner schools is strong and its efforts to ensure students move smoothly from school to college are successful. The college fully demonstrates its commitment to local and to partnership working.

The expertise, full participation and continued support of the college have contributed greatly to the development and preparation for taking forward the 14-19 reforms in the local area, particularly the planning for the recent gateway bids.

If there are any points or aspects of the visit you wish to discuss, please get in touch. As we will be evaluating the survey, you may be contacted in the future to find out your views. I hope you will contribute to this evaluation. Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely  
Peter Green  
Her Majesty's Inspector