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30 January 2009

Mr R Dearing  
Principal  
Cambridge Regional College  
Kings Hedges Road  
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Dear Mr Dearing

Ofsted Thematic Survey Programme 2008-09

Social Responsibility and Community Cohesion

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation during my recent visit. I am grateful to you and all your staff, particularly Chris Sherwin, for the hard work involved in preparing for the visit and for giving up your time during the visit to meet me. Please pass on my thanks to all those concerned, including your students. The visit provided much useful evidence for the further development of community cohesion.

I noted, in particular:

- The strong corporate focus on the promotion of equality and diversity issues and a safe and welcoming learning environment for students and staff.
- The high achievement for all groups of learners of minority ethnic heritage.
- The innovative and vigorous multi-faith chaplaincy that celebrates a broad range of faith and beliefs.
- The wide range of partnerships that engages many learners who do not traditionally participate in post-16 education and training.
- The strong, inclusive ethos throughout college providing good support to learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

I identified one point for your consideration:

- The further consolidation of procedures to ensure that the learner voice is fully represented on all courses.

The published survey report will list the names of the contributing institutions in an appendix. Should we wish to cite specific aspects of the good practice observed on this visit in the form of a detailed case study, you will be contacted first. You will be notified of the date of publication of the survey report when it is confirmed and you will be provided with details of any other arrangements to disseminate the survey's findings.

Yours sincerely

Tony Noonan  
Her Majesty's Inspector