

25 February 2009

Mr C Dark  
Headteacher  
Matravers School  
Springfield Road  
Westbury  
BA13 3QH

Dear Mr Dark

Ofsted survey inspection programme – 14-19 reforms

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and students, during my visit on 03 February 2009 as part of our survey on 14-19 developments in the local area.

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.

Overall, the contribution the school is making towards the implementation of the creative and media Diploma and functional skills by the consortium is good. I outline the main findings as bullet points below.

The main strengths are:

- very enthusiastic and committed students and staff
- particularly effective collaborative working between several neighbouring schools and the college, sharing resources, teachers, students and data to create a fully comprehensive and stimulating model for teaching and learning
- highly imaginative and flexible curriculum design
- very good involvement of local professional practitioners and employers to inform, guide and enhance the experiences of teachers and students
- excellent early development of students' personal, learning and thinking skills (PLTS) by creating opportunities for them to take responsibility for their creative ideas and ownership of their artistic expression.

Areas for further development:

- highlighting and reinforcing more explicitly and substantially the development of literacy and numeracy through the principal learning (PL) and the additional and specialist learning (ASL) elements of the Diploma

- ensuring that the process of internally moderating final unit marks is undertaken more promptly.

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

Alan Marsh  
Her Majesty's Inspector