26th March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Ofsted Monitoring Visit – Wednesday, 27th March 2019**

We have been told today that there is to be a monitoring visit to the school tomorrow to assess the progress of the school since our Ofsted Inspection last year.

During the day, two of Her Majesty’s Inspectors will be observing lessons, talking with staff and students, and observing the school at work. They will be looking at books and reports to evaluate the extent to which we have addressed the issues raised last year and the areas for further improvement that were identified.

Following the visit, we will receive a letter that indicates an overarching judgement as to whether or not the leaders and managers of the school are taking effective action towards the removal of the serious weaknesses designation. This is not a full inspection and so there will be no full report and no new judgement of the school.

On this occasion, there is no specific parent survey that is undertaken. However, I will be able to share with the team the outcomes of the parent survey that so many of you completed in January.

I will, of course, share any communication that I receive relating to the monitoring visit with you as soon as it become available.

**Later Start on a Wednesday**

Tomorrow is also the second week in our short trial of a later start for students on a Wednesday. As a reminder, the school will be open from 8.00am in the usual way, but students will not be registered until 8.50am when they go to their first lesson. The canteen will be open and serving breakfast from 8.00am – 8.40am. There will be no tutor time tomorrow. This is to enable the whole staff to get together for a briefing and to improve our internal communications.

Last Wednesday a high number of students were late to school – arriving after 8.50am. This made them late for their lessons and disrupted learning. Please could you ensure that your child leaves home in plenty of time to arrive at school – and preferably to ensure that they are in school by 8.45am and thus ready for period 1 at 8.50am. Punctuality to school has improved enormously recently and it was a shame last week that this did not extend to the later start for some students.

Yours faithfully,

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher