

"A step away from Outstanding"



Staff and pupils at Stanborough School are celebrating after receiving a 'Good' rating from Ofsted Inspectors following an inspection held in January. The Lead Inspector de-briefed the Stanborough School Governors and Senior Leadership team saying that the school was "a step away from outstanding" and "small tweaks" had to be made.

In 2018 September, a new Headteacher Mrs John took over the leadership of the school. Mrs John joined Stanborough from a local school where she had been part of the leadership team in moving the school from OFSTED's Inadequate to one of the top performing Hertfordshire schools.

Mrs John said "It has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to lead this community since September 2018. The leaders, teachers and support staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that the students who are at the heart of what we do, get the best quality provision in absolutely every area of their education. The lead inspector had commented that the transformational leadership has had the desired impact on the school and as a result the school has moved forward significantly since September 2018. I am surrounded by a team of inspirational leaders who have given their heart and soul to ensuring that Stanborough is a great place to study and work. Headteachers are truly blessed when they are surrounded by such amazing leaders"

Inspectors delivered a glowing report of Stanborough School and highlighted the fact that the leaders in the school had taken clear and effective action to ensure the school had improved since the last inspection in 2019 where the school had been rated as Requires Improvement. The Inspectors noted that pupils behaved well and that they know and understand what leaders expect of them. Pupils also know that staff will help if they have a worry or issue and that the pupils benefit from a range of effective support services to help them in school.



The school's curriculum came in for particular praise. The Inspectors noted that leaders have redesigned the curriculum, that it is academically ambitious and that pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum which enables them to pursue their talents and interests.





The Inspectors also praised the teaching and support staff in the school. Teachers presented subject matter clearly, promoting appropriate discussion about what is being taught. Staff also quickly identified pupils who struggle with reading.

All of the above led the Inspectors to the conclusion that pupils achieved well at Stanborough and that the pupils meet the high ambitions expected of them to achieve well.

Headteacher, Mrs John, said, "We are delighted to have been rated 'Good' by Ofsted and we are particularly pleased that they have recognised the work carried out by the school on the curriculum we offer, the behaviour of the students and the support we offer to all our students to be successful". When considering personal development, the report highlighted the wide range of opportunities for positive personal development and that pupils learnt about mutual respect and tolerance through a well-planned programme. It was also noted that there was a coherent and well planned programme of careers education from Year 7 to Year 13.

Mrs John added, "Additionally, it highlights our incredible students and staff who work so hard to make the school an amazing place to be in. We are also delighted to learn that we are oversubscribed for our September 2023 intake. This has been achieved even before the news of this good grading. I would like to thank all those parents who had selected Stanborough as their school of choice as I am very aware that you have chosen the school in spite of the school being judged as Requires Improvement. Your trust and faith as parents in the leadership of this school has been truly appreciated and I promise you that your children will get the very best quality of education and support. We now continue to ensure that we provide an outstanding education for our children and will make the necessary tweaks highlighted by OFSTED. I look forward to welcoming them back to an exceptional school in the next four years. This is an exciting time for the school."

Interested parents and students will have a chance to visit the school on their Open Evening on September 28th from 5:30pm. A series of Open Mornings will take place as from Monday 2nd October.



