Aspire, Believe and Achieve Together

Newsletter 21 Friday 11th March 2022

### Press release from Wolverhampton City Council 7th March 2022.

The King's CE taking effective action to become "Good" school.

#### A Wolverhampton high school is taking effective action to become 'Good', says Ofsted.

Inspector Ian Tustain carried out a monitoring inspection visit of The King's Church of England School last month, in what was the first routine inspection of the Tettenhall school since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

He found that "leaders' plans to improve the school focus on the right things", and while the pandemic had delayed the pace of change to some extent, their "creativity and energy have ensured that improvement has not stalled."

Staff and pupils at the school "work together to grow, learn and aspire", with staff quick to reward pupils for their efforts. Leaders expect the best from staff and pupils, with the young people themselves telling Mr Tustain "they are proud to be part of their school".

Lessons are "calm and productive", and leaders' work to improve the curriculum has been ongoing since the last inspection. Subject leaders have "aimed high" to create a curriculum which is "ambitious for all", including pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

Leaders have been "outward facing as they have sought to improve the school", and have utilised support provided by the City of Wolverhampton Council well, which has "helped strengthen leadership at all levels". They have also built successful and productive relationships with other schools, giving "leaders the opportunity to reflect on their work and how they could do things better".

A broad range of subjects is now offered across Key Stages 3 and 4 with the school taking steps to encourage more pupils to study a foreign language in Years 10 and 11, including the recent introduction of Spanish to the Key Stage 3 curriculum.

Leadership of the sixth form has also been strengthened, with students telling the inspector they "value the education and support teachers provide".

Mr Tustain made 2 recommendations for areas for further action and concluded that leaders and governors "are taking effective action in order for the school to become a good school".

Joy Langley, Interim Principal, said: "We are delighted that Ofsted have recognised that the school is going from strength to strength and has remained focused and committed whilst overcoming the unprecedented challenges presented by the pandemic.

"Our vision statement inspires and informs every aspect of school life and we are particularly pleased that the inspector was able to see this and to hear from our pupils how proud they are of their school. "It is a truly whole team effort and the report reflects the hard work and dedication of everyone and affirms us as we continue to journey towards becoming a beacon of excellence in the city."

Emma Bennett, the council's Executive Director of Families, said: "This is a positive report which shows strong improvement at The King's CE School, which has been achieved in spite of all the difficulties imposed by the coronavirus pandemic.

"I am pleased that the excellent leadership shown by Joy Langley and her team, in tandem with the support offered by the council's Education team, is bringing about the changes needed to ensure that The Kings will become a Good school in due course."

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#### **Sports Hall athletics:**

On Monday we took 11 Year 7's to Aldersley Leisure Village to compete in the Wolverhampton Sports Hall athletics competition. The students took part indoor field events such as: Medicine Ball throw and the speed bounce, as well as competing in the sprints and relay events. The students represented us with pride, enthusiasm and a positive attitude to all of the events. A big well done to all involved!

### Year 10 Girls Wolverhampton City Volleyball competition:

A group of our Year 10 girls participated in a Volleyball tournament held at The King's CE School, with over 12 teams involved, our pupils showed great determination and a high skill set to win several matches. Each match duration was 5 minutes and throughout that time the pupils were improving by listening to each others advice, demonstrating great teamwork! The pupils are excited to continue their volleyball skills, well done to all involved! The atmosphere was positive, busy and competitive! Our year 10 and 12 sports leaders were also there supporting with the refereeing and scoring of the games.

### **Sports Leaders:**

On Tuesday Year 9 pupils lead a class of Year 5 primary school pupils from Fallings Park for a sport session: covering Benchball, Football and Dodgeball. Pupils showed excellent creativity when planning and delivering their session which all pupils enjoyed thoroughly. A member of staff from the primary school stated "Your leaders have shown brilliant enthusiasm and are a credit to the school, your leaders have used demonstrations and clear instructions to allow our year 5 students to be fully engaged with the session" A huge well done to all pupils involved, you were exceptional! Fallings Park are excited to bring one of their other year 5 classes next week too.

Miss Pugh





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### National Careers Week 9th-12th March 2022

As part of National Careers week we were very excited on Wednesday to hold our first face-toface careers fayre in 2 years. COVID had seen this event successfully move online however it was brilliant to be able to invite 23 external exhibitors into school to meet and engage with our young people.

All students from Year 7 through to Year 13 had the opportunity to attend and to speak to guests from Universities, Colleges, Apprenticeship providers and of course the world of work.

An absolutely fantastic day from start to finish, all students did themselves and the school proud and it was a pleasure to listen to the conversations being had.

Year 9 have been taking part in the Black Country Creative World of Work week too. This has seen them taking part in sessions on the creative industries, specifically, performing & visual arts and creative digital media. Whilst Year 12 and 13 have had the opportunity to take part in virtual lectures through the University of Worcester this week as well,

Thank you to everyone involved!

Ms Arnold

Careers Lead.









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#### From the Chaplain....

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem; how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing." Jesus said in our Bible reading for this week. In contrast to the mighty and all-powerful God we often see depicted, this more maternal image of God as a hen gathering together her chicks to protect and care for them is comforting at a time of so much need and with so much division and conflict in the world. But are we willing to be gathered up and nurtured; are we willing to accept the support and care offered to us?

Part of my role is to gather together pupils who have fallen out and are upset, hurt or angry with one another. We listen to one another, we try to understand what has gone wrong from each other's perspective and we look for more hopeful ways forward together. This rebuilding and repairing of relationships can be a very powerful tool in our work to build a harmonious school community together when it works well. But it is not easy to face and listen to a person who has hurt you and who you have hurt. Sometimes the pupils involved are just not ready to lay down the hurt they are feeling and to seek reconciliation; not ready to be comforted and to let go of the pain they are holding onto. Sometimes the process takes longer and for the mean time the support offered is rejected.

Probably all of us know what it feels like to have the help and care we offer rejected, and clearly Jesus did too. Not long after he uttered these words, Jesus would be heading towards Jerusalem where he would suffer and die for the very people who had rejected him and his love. But God's offer of love is not a once only offer; even when we reject him he stays there with his arms outstretched waiting to welcome us, should we choose to turn back to him. If we do accept God's gift of love for us, he will work in our hearts, transforming us until we too are capable of forgiving hurt and feeling compassion for those who have rejected us. From such small beginnings, the whole world around us may one day be transformed.

Of course none of this is easy or immediate, but every journey starts with a single step. Let's take one day at a time. Can we accept God's desire to love and bless us today?

We remember Jesus wanting to protect God's people as we pray for peace this week.

### **Prayer for Peace**

Peace go with you. God's quiet within the noise. God's hope within uncertainty. God's rest within the toil. God's presence within your soul. Peace go with you.

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#### The Theme for Worship w.c 14th March

Being humble (David repents)

2 Samuel 11: 1-9, 13



At The King's CE School we believe that everyone is unique and created in God's image. We enable all to achieve their God-given potential; to grow, learn and aspire; to transform their lives and the lives of others and to journey in faith without limits within a unified, respectful and harmonious community.

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