

3 April 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

**OFSTED INSPECTION - 15 & 16 March 2017**

We have now received the final report from OFSTED following our inspection last month and are pleased to inform you **we have received the judgement of GOOD.**

This judgement is testament to the school improvement over the last 18 months and is well deserved recognition for all staff and students in their diligence and commitment in ensuring this improvement occurred.

As principal this will now allow me to further enhance the good education our students receive and continue our journey to becoming outstanding.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and carers for their continued support of both myself and the school in what has been a challenging transitional period. I hope that this external validation will strengthen the reputation of Heanor Gate in both the local and wider community.

The full report is now available on our school website and will be published on the OFSTED website on Friday 7 April. Alternatively a hard copy can be collected from main reception. I have included the front page headline summary which will give you a synopsis of the Ofsted inspection and their findings.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone associated with our school as it is the dedication of all our governors, staff and students, along with the continued support of the Spencer Academies Trust that enables the school to provide a good education.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Huntington

# Heanor Gate Science College

Kirkley Drive, Heanor, Derbyshire DE75 7RA

## Inspection dates

15–16 March 2017

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
Effectiveness of leadership and management	<b>Good</b>
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment	<b>Good</b>
Personal development, behaviour and welfare	<b>Good</b>
Outcomes for pupils	<b>Good</b>
16 to 19 study programmes	<b>Good</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

## Summary of key findings for parents and pupils

### This is a good school

- The principal provides determined leadership. He has raised expectations across the school and brought about significant improvement in a short period of time.
- Leaders and governors know their school and have a good understanding of its strengths and weaknesses. The school's plans for improvements tackle the right priorities. As a result, previously low examination results in English have been rectified.
- Many of the senior and middle leaders at the school have taken up their roles in the past year. They have supported the principal well in bringing about rapid change.
- The quality of teaching has improved markedly. This is the result of some new appointments, high-quality professional development and decisive action taken to eradicate weaker practice.
- Pupils' progress has improved and is now good across a range of subjects. Previously underachieving groups, such as higher-ability disadvantaged pupils and boys, are now rapidly catching up with others.
- Pupils behave very well in lessons and during the less structured times of the school day. They are polite, courteous and respectful and were frequently seen to be holding doors open for each other and adults.
- Pupils' attendance is good overall. Leaders' efforts to improve the attendance of disadvantaged pupils are beginning to show improvements.
- The sixth form is good. Leaders have taken robust action to challenge underachieving departments.