



Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### **More House School Ofsted Inspection**

Dear Parents,

Following the full inspection of More House School in late February, Ofsted has now issued their inspection report, and I am thrilled to share it with you in full.

Parents may find the format of this report unfamiliar. We were inspected this time under the brand-new inspection framework which only went fully live in January of this year.

Ofsted no longer issues single-word overall judgements of schools but instead grades individual judgement areas.

For our school, these judgement areas are:

- Safeguarding
- Achievement
- Attendance and behaviour
- Curriculum and teaching
- Inclusion
- Personal development and wellbeing
- Post 16 provision (Sixth Form)
- Leadership and governance

Safeguarding is judged differently from all of the other judgement areas. For Safeguarding, Ofsted offers only two possible grades: either 'Standards met' or 'Standards not met'.

For the other seven judgement areas, Ofsted provides the following guidance for parents:

***New Ofsted grading system*** ([Understanding Ofsted report cards and grades - GOV.UK](#))

*The main change is that we no longer give one overall judgement, such as 'good', 'outstanding' or 'requires improvement'.*

*Instead, the report cards show colour-coded grades for different areas – the aspects of education that matter most to you, like 'attendance and behaviour', 'achievement', 'personal development and well-being', and 'inclusion' (meaning how well the school or other provider meets the needs of all children).*

*We grade these areas on a new scale:*

## **MORE HOUSE SCHOOL**

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- 'exceptional'
- 'strong standard'
- 'expected standard'
- 'needs attention'
- 'urgent improvement'

We also tell you whether safeguarding responsibilities are 'met' or 'not met'.

*It's important to understand that the new grades can't be compared to the old ones: this is a different approach to inspection and a new way of reporting to you.*

### **What the new Ofsted grades tell you**

*The 'expected standard' is just that – it means the school or other provider is doing everything that it should be doing, so you'll see the green colour coding on the report card. It's a high standard, to make sure your children are receiving everything they need and deserve.*

*Moving up the scale, 'strong standard' marks out excellent, consistent work that's making a real difference for children and learners.*

*And finally, there's 'exceptional'. We only award this grade when we see practice that is among the very best nationally, which should be shared with other schools or providers to help them improve.*

*'Needs attention' is an indication that there is work to be done to reach the 'expected standard'. It's not a 'fail' but it highlights where issues can be addressed before they become bigger problems that need 'urgent improvement'.*

*You may see a mix of grades across a report card: it's perfectly possible to achieve highly in some areas, and require a little more focus in others.*

Please find attached to this email, the full inspection report. It is really important that parents read through the inspectors' findings of our school.

The Ofsted framework is very new and so statistical comparison of inspection outcomes is underdeveloped. However, expert analysis of the new inspection framework by sector representative bodies published online identifies the proportion of schools expected to achieve an 'Exceptional' judgement in any one area of their report to be well below the proportion of schools previously awarded 'Outstanding'. An 'Exceptional' judgement is intended to be extremely uncommon.

This places into context the phenomenal achievement of our school community, in being awarded four 'Exceptional' judgements in the same inspection, and with all other judgements being 'Strong standard'.

We should all feel so proud of this public recognition of our incredible school and pupils. The inspection report is a testament to the commitment shown by parents, pupils, governors and staff; to the inspiring outcomes achieved by our students year after year, and to the expertise, skill and resources which enable your sons to thrive. Ofsted will make the report publicly accessible on their website at the start of next week.

I also draw to your attention the Boarding inspection report, which we received recently following the Ofsted Social Care inspection of our school only two school weeks before our full Education inspection. Ofsted Social Care are still using the old framework of judgements, and awarded our school the highest grade of 'Outstanding' in every judgement area. For your ease of reference, I also attach that report to this communication.

I feel humbled and proud to spend my life within such a unique and aspirational school community, and I hope that each of us shares that same pride and celebration of our school. Please feel free to share widely across your family networks, these inspection outcomes.

Thank you to everyone in our community, for your unwavering commitment to our school mission and our pupils.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Hetherington  
Headmaster