



IXWORTH FREE SCHOOL

"Providing a foundation for life"

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17 July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, we welcomed Ofsted to the school on 20-21 June 2017. Their report was finalised on 14 July 2017 and it is now available on the school website under Information for Parents – performance data.

The overall assessment of Ofsted is that Ixworth Free School 'Requires Improvement'. We were disappointed by this conclusion because our regular monitoring arrangements had led us to expect a better judgement. However, we clearly respect the views of Ofsted and we are determined to improve those areas that Ofsted has particularly noted. In response to Ofsted's comments, we are already developing an action plan to prioritise areas for rapid improvement.

Specifically, we will take actions to ensure:

- that teaching is more consistent and effective in developing students' learning at all levels;
- that we are better able to demonstrate the progress that all our students are making;
- that students, particularly disadvantaged students, attend school more regularly; and
- that we demonstrate better the targeting of resources to support students who need it most, so that all students can achieve their potential.

From September, we look forward to welcoming the new Headteacher Mr Mark Barrow, who will continue to address the areas for improvement as we seek to become an Outstanding school.

During their two-day visit, Ofsted inspectors found a range of strengths for Ixworth Free School, including the following:

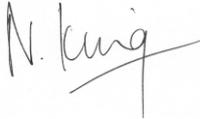
- the school provides pupils with a rich, stimulating environment in which to learn;
- the school is a safe, friendly and enjoyable place to be. Pupils are polite, respectful and conduct themselves well outside of lessons;
- staff foster good relations with pupils;
- pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is good;
- the wide range of activities including off-site visits, careers events and weekly enrichment sessions are valued highly by pupils; and
- safeguarding arrangements are secure and effective.



As this is not the Ofsted result that we or you were hoping for, we are aware that some of you may have concerns which you will want to discuss. We are therefore proposing to enable you to meet with me and representatives from the Trust Board to discuss the report on 20 July 2017. Should this be of interest please contact the school office to make a convenient appointment.

With only a short while left before the summer break, I hope to see some of you on 20 July 2017 or at our various school events taking place over the next few days.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. King'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Miss N. King
Headteacher