

Monday 13th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Ofsted Update

As you are aware, it has been a momentous fortnight for us all at Pool Hayes. It was a real delight and honour to share our recent Ofsted report and 'Good' judgement. We all fully appreciate how important this is for both your child and our whole academy community. What this Ofsted judgement does is validate the actions and decisions we are making as an academy for your child. Ofsted do not make one child brighter or better behaved, instead their judgement allows the community to have confidence in the leaders at Pool Hayes Academy and the security of knowing that decisions taken are in the best interests of children and the whole academy. The inspection itself was rigorous, thorough and fair. The team got under the skin of the academy and were incredibly impressed with our young people.

On the first day the team conducted four 'deep dives' into our curriculum. This meant they observed lessons, spoke to students, interviewed teachers and looked at books and work in those areas. Ofsted judged our 'Quality of Education' to be 'Good' and this mainly came from their findings on day one. They were impressed with how our curriculum is constructed and how we built on students' knowledge and skills. As well as this, they also spent a lot of time looking at behaviour and how we support students in meeting our high expectations. Again, the team observed students in lessons, at break and lunch, met groups of students and met students who had been previously suspended. The first line of our report reflects what they found, "This is a calm and caring school." What shone through was that our staff know our students really well and support all students to succeed. There were also many conversations regarding students with SEND and Safeguarding. Both of these areas were praised for ensuring all students are safe and well catered for.

The second day was spent meeting students, observing more lessons, looking at how we develop reading, exploring careers and evaluating our extra-curricular offer. This was well received by the Ofsted team and they were happy to award Pool Hayes Academy a 'Good' rating in the first time in our history.

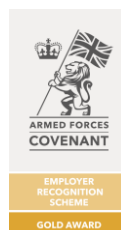
We are obviously delighted at this outcome. However, this is not the end or 'finishing line' for Pool Hayes. We know that our actions and decisions lead to positive change for our young people and for us as a community, the validation from Ofsted is important. You can be assured that we are not in any way stopping or seeing the job here as 'done'. For us the journey has just begun.



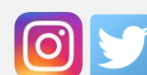
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Year 11 and Year 13 Exam Update

A Huge well done to all Year 11 and Year 13 students who are over half way through their examination period. As you can imagine it has been a rollercoaster of an exam series but students' have behaved immaculately throughout their exams and really grasped the opportunity they have been given. Some exams have gone well, others are more challenging but overall you should be proud of their resilience and determination to succeed.

Extra-Curricular Update

There have been loads of extra-curricular activities this past fortnight at Pool Hayes Academy. Our Year 7 Book Quiz Team represented Pool Hayes in the Wolverhampton Book Quiz at Wolverhampton Grammar School. They performed brilliantly and our readers' preparation and commitment were impressive.

Our PE department led a trip to the Birmingham Bears cricket team and had a wonderful time learning about how a professional sports team operates.

Our Craft Club have submitted a #PHAntastic piece of art for the 'Super Bloom at the Tower of London' competition. They used recycled materials and dried flowers to create a giant bee sculpture.

Finally, as we move into the last term of the year it is frightening to think how fast the year has gone! We have seen numerous obstacles hurdled and have come through magnificently. The future for all of us at Pool Hayes is bright and I know that with your continued support, we can grow from strength to strength.

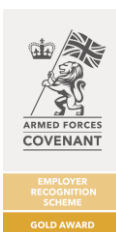
Many thanks



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