



1st March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, we welcomed our colleagues from Ofsted to Rivers Academy between 29th and 30th January 2019. We were inspected under the new Ofsted framework which is very different to the framework under which we were inspected in 2015. I am pleased to inform you that the Academy has been graded as good.

The inspectors recognised how well your children conduct themselves in lessons and around the Academy. Inspectors went on to note the high expectations demonstrated by our teachers of themselves, and how this is reflected amongst students, a culture we have been keen to develop. The inspectors confirmed the high quality of teaching with specific praise for English and Maths, Spanish and Art. The team from Ofsted appreciated also the high quality professional development from which staff benefit at Rivers Academy, enabling us to be effective in our work.

Of course, there is always still work to do, and the inspectors highlighted that we understood our own strengths and areas for development very well and concluded that our existing development plans are having the right impact in further strengthening teaching and learning for all students at Rivers Academy. The full report can be read here www.rivers-aspirations.org/149/latest-ofsted-report

Year 11 and 13 students' recent mock examination results show that students have made exceptional progress since their first mock examinations in October 2018. Parents of students in these year groups will be very aware that the coming weeks are an incredibly important time in each Year 11 and 13 student's education.

Many students chose to attend half term revision and preparation sessions during February half term. We will be offering additional support sessions during the Easter holiday to supplement the revision that students must undertake at home in order to achieve their fullest potential in the summer examinations and beyond.

Please do encourage your child to attend compulsory after school and extra-curricular sessions on time to really boost their performance in the Year 11 and 13 examinations. Your son or daughter's Academic Mentor will be able to provide you with more details of these sessions.

This term has again seen incredible opportunities for students at Rivers Academy, we are very grateful to staff who have led an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities in addition to our programme of support and revision sessions. I know that many of you were

*'To be able to dream about the future, while being inspired
in the present to reach those dreams'* Dr. Russell J. Quaglia



closely following news from our intrepid students who benefitted from educational visits to NASA in America and Andorra during half term.

Students also had a unique opportunity to learn from global entrepreneur Jo Malone during her visit to Rivers Academy last half term. Jo Malone who has faced challenges in both her business and personal journey shared her story of personal self-worth, resilience, integrity and aspiration with students.

Following the incredible opportunity to work alongside the local council to design the regeneration of Feltham, Rivers Academy students were invited to work alongside the Heathrow Employability Taskforce.

The taskforce, chaired by Lord Blunkett, is considering how best to develop career opportunities for local residents. Members of the taskforce, including both Lord Blunkett and the CEO of Heathrow CEO, reported how impressed they were with Rivers Academy students. Such high profile employability opportunities support our mission to ensure that every child graduates to a top university, an exceptional apprenticeship or to a highly skilled career of their choice. We would like to thank the Heathrow Employability Taskforce and Rivers Academy staff for making such opportunities possible.

Yours sincerely,

Andria Singlehurst,
Principal.