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10th February 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s).

I am writing to you in my role as the CEO of Passmores Cooperative Learning Community (PCLC) regarding the recent Ofsted inspection. We were really hoping that they would not visit us until the summer term to allow all of the changes that Mr Calderwood and his team have put in place to have their full, positive impact.

The Ofsted framework changes regularly and this, much more rigorous inspection, was the first time it had been applied at The Downs. There are many things that we are pleased about and the fact that Mr Calderwood, and the changes he and his team have put in place, were spoken of so highly by the children, staff and wider community show we are heading in the right direction.

The inspectors were full of praise for the children at The Downs and commented very positively on the hard work of the staff in supporting and caring for their needs.

...happy and safe...

The inspection team commented on how happy and safe the children are in our school. They were especially impressed with the way in which our team safeguard children, as well as how well we promote pupils' personal development and use external agencies such as the police to teach children how to keep themselves safe.

...positive relationships...

As you will know, we have made a number of changes since the start of the academic year. The report acknowledges this and mentions how the changes to our behaviour system in particular have had an immediate impact for the better.

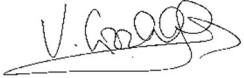
...pupils enjoy lessons because their teachers and teaching assistants are enthusiastic and kind...

We knew beforehand that there were a number of areas we needed to work on and we are pleased that the report does not bring anything that we were not aware of – we have already started working on implementing the changes which they recommend.

I am sure under the guidance of Mr Calderwood and his team the school will continue to improve in all areas. At this point, I'd like to thank all of the parents/carers, pupils and staff for your support and hard work in making The Downs such a special and happy place to work and learn.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Goddard', with a horizontal line underneath.

Vic Goddard

CEO – Passmores Co-operative Learning Community

