Dear parents,

We are pleased to share with you the report from OFSTED’s most recent monitoring visit which took place on 6th and 7th June. We are pleased that this visit was deemed a section 5 inspection which means the category of concern (special measures) has been lifted.

The inspection team have recognised “considerable change” has taken place whilst the school remained in special measures, and that the “drive for improvement has been relentless”. Regardless of OFSTED, we all want this school to be as good as it can for each and every one of our children.

The school has been judged to be good in all areas whilst still ‘requiring improvement' in behaviour and attitudes. The report also lays out clearly those four areas where improvement is still needed. The school’s leadership team has already taken steps to address these areas for improvement and some of the changes will be seen in the new academic year.

Whilst the report is positive, we all recognise that there is still work to be done around school routines and the behaviour of some of our pupils in some of their lessons. The ‘behaviour and attitudes’ category does include school attendance which, in the case of King David High School, is below national levels. It is vital that we have the support of all our parents in ensuring all our pupils attend school as often as they are able to. I cannot authorise absences for holidays during term time. I have communicated with parents previously about the impact that missed days or even hours of school have on academic progress. Missed time in school amounts to missed opportunities for pupils.

The inspectors also commented on some pupils’ punctuality to school, and punctuality to lessons. We are training our young people for life beyond school, and they will be expected to arrive at work or to appointments on time. Punctuality also helps them make the most of their time at school and ensures that lesson time is most effectively used. We also need the support of parents in effectively tackling those small pockets of disruption where they do occur. Please support us when we feel sanctions need to be applied to improve behaviour. It is vital parents work with the school in a supportive manner. I do not want to resort to draconian measures to deal with attendance and punctuality, I would far rather work in partnership with our community.

Our SEND provision has already been reviewed and we will have a new SENDCO in post in September. I will write with further information about the changes here in due course, suffice to say at this stage that we are all feeling very positive about further developments in school for September 2023.

Whilst we are pleased that the school is now out of ‘special measures’ we all recognise that there is never room for complacency, and that school improvement is a continuous and ongoing process. We all want to provide the best learning environment we can for all the children and young people we are responsible for.

I am grateful for the support of the pupils, staff and parent body on the journey so far and I am confident that the school will continue to go from strength to strength over the coming terms and years.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Dover John Dalziel

Chair of Governors Executive Headteacher