



THE NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL

Lionheart Educational Trust

The Newbridge School
Forest Road, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 3SJ

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www.newbridge.org.uk

Executive Principal Julia Patrick
Co-Heads of School Mike Gamble & Mick Rowbottom

September 12th, 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

RE: Ofsted and Whole School Expectations

We hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well and that your child has made a positive start to the new academic year.

On June 21st and June 22nd 2022, The Newbridge School was visited by Ofsted to carry out an inspection of its provision. Shortly, Ofsted's report will be published on its website and we felt it important to provide our families with some context regarding Ofsted's reflections.

The Inspection team engaged fully with the journey the school is currently on and recognised that leaders and staff had shown resilience during a period of instability and significant change.

The Inspectors understood that the school's application to change the age range of the school (to an 11-16 provider) happened during the Covid-19 pandemic which was particularly unsettling for the school community.

The Inspection team also recognised that the new leadership team had a strong handle on what needs to improve at the school, alongside an ambitious vision for the curriculum. They recognised that safeguarding arrangements are effective at The Newbridge School and that learners are increasingly challenged by high expectations both within the classroom and during social times.

The new leadership team are clear, though, that aspects of the school provision are **not yet** good enough and are investing in staff professional development to ensure the highest quality teaching and learning experiences for your child. As evidenced in the report, staff feel well supported at the school and are committed to this vision.

The school's leaders also understand that the behaviour and attitudes of students has a significant impact on achieving this vision and have clear plans in place to ensure **all** students behave consistently well and show positive attitudes to their learning and their peers at all times.

There are four judgements made by Ofsted: 'Leadership and Management', 'Personal Development', 'Quality of Education' and 'Behaviour and Attitudes'.

The Inspection team decided that the first three areas '**requires improvement**'. It decided that the standard for Behaviour and Attitudes was currently '**inadequate**'.

The current Ofsted framework operates in such a way that when one area is graded as 'inadequate' then the overall judgement of the school is '**inadequate**'.



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The full report will be published from Friday 23rd September on the Ofsted website. Please follow this link to The Newbridge School website to read a copy of the report.

<https://www.newbridge.org.uk/about-us/ofsted-results/ofsted-results/>

Next steps

We understand that this overall judgement may cause you some concern and want to reassure you that the areas identified in the report are already being rapidly addressed. This year we have increased the capacity of the leadership team and are sharply focused on driving forward improvements in all the areas identified in the report.

We are wholeheartedly committed to delivering an excellent provision for your family and our community and feel confident about our robust and detailed improvement plan.

As you will know, from 1st September we officially joined The Lionheart Educational Trust, a well-established trust with a strong infrastructure and a proven track record for improving standards and outcomes.

We would like to invite you to one of our parent forums which will take place on Tuesday 20th September. There will be two sessions held on this evening and to ensure capacity we will require you to please book your place on one of these sessions using the following link:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lionhearttrust/the-newbridge-school-ofsted-parent-forum/e-vaybpe>

This meeting will be led by The Newbridge School leadership team and representatives from the Lionheart Trust and will provide you with an opportunity to understand further our plans for improvement, and the progress we have made so far.

Working in close partnership with our families is essential and we would hugely value your support; united, we can achieve the success our students and the community deserves. With this in mind, we attach a copy of our Routines and Expectations Parent Information booklet, detailing our systems and processes to ensure a positive learning environment. We have explicitly taught these routines and expectations to our students, and we would appreciate if you could please read this booklet with your child and encourage them to understand the way The Newbridge School will operate to ensure optimum progress for your child.

Yours faithfully,

Mr M Rowbottom
Co-Head of The Newbridge School

Mr M Gamble
Co-Head of The Newbridge School