



Key Points from HMI Visit – July 2015

As you may know, Ofsted/HMI Inspectors visited TLA on 8 and 9 July. It was their fourth 'monitoring' inspection since the inspection in 2013 which led to the Academy being put into special measures.

Their report has now been published and recognises the tremendous efforts being made by students and staff to improve TLA. The HMI monitoring report is in full on our website.

Here are some of the positive things Ofsted said about us – and some of the areas where we are trying even harder.

Students

- Students' achievement continues to improve steadily.
- Students have a better understanding of what they are learning and the progress they are making.
- The importance of literacy skills has been raised.
- Achievement levels are better in English than in Maths but better leadership and teaching are improving Maths.
- Disabled students or those with special educational needs are making better progress.
- Students take greater pride in their appearance and the academy environment.
- Students say they feel safe and there is very little bullying or racism.
- The new behaviour management policy has successfully addressed poor behaviour.
- Students are showing greater respect which is beginning to create a supportive atmosphere.

Teachers

- A wide range of effective strategies have been introduced to improve teaching.
- The quality of teaching is improving and more of it is good.
- Teachers are now making more accurate assessments of students' progress and attainment.
- The Principal provides strong leadership and is ably supported by other senior leaders.
- Middle leaders are having a more direct impact on the quality of teaching and students' achievements.

Criticisms

- More remains to be done to accelerate the progress of disadvantaged students.
- More able students need to be challenged more to deepen their understanding and thinking.
- More action is to be taken to address the poor attendance rates and level of exclusions among disadvantaged students.
- Attendance is improving slowly but remains below the national average.
- Links between academic departments and pastoral support systems are not being used well enough.

You can read the Ofsted report in full here: <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>