



# The Robert Napier School



Dear Parents/Carers

## The Robert Napier School is a GOOD school



As Headteacher of The Robert Napier School, I am immensely proud to inform you that in our recent Ofsted inspection the school has been recognised as a '**Good**' school in all categories, with an additional acknowledgment of the 'Outstanding' provision for the Personal Development and Welfare of the students in its care.

It has been 16 years since the last overall Good inspection, and the first time in the school's inspection history that the school has achieved a 'Good' in all categories, including for the Quality of Teaching and Learning. We are delighted with the recognition of the significant amount of hard work that has gone into returning the school to one which the local community can be proud to send their children.

Inspectors recognised the school as "**An exceptionally caring and inclusive environment**" where there are "**positive relationships between staff and pupils**" and that "**The school's highly inclusive ethos ensures that these and all other pupils are safe and exceptionally well cared for.**" They also praised the "**well designed curriculum**" and, for the first time in 20 years, have recognised that "**leaders' and teachers' hard work has ensured that the quality of teaching is now good**".

It has not been a journey without its challenges. Prior to arriving as Headteacher, the 2014 Ofsted HMI monitoring visit concluded that leaders were not taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified in the previous inspection.

Since then, the school has completely redesigned its leadership team which has helped to drive up standards significantly, with the most recent inspection recognising that "**Together with his dedicated senior and middle leaders, the Headteacher has successfully transformed the culture of the school.**"

### What this means for you and your child and their future

As parents/carers who have shown faith in our school, we are delighted that you can now robustly challenge the old perception of the school. We know many of you already speak highly of the



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school, so this Ofsted report will add weight to any debate you may have and you can have confidence in the quality of provision you have chosen for your child.

It will also allow students to be able to feel proud of their own school and show confidence amongst their peers within the community. We all need to raise students' aspirations and believe in the fact that any student can achieve anything they want when they come to The Robert Napier School, including going to the very top Universities – something we expect to achieve when the A' Level results come out this summer.

## What this means for the school

Achieving a Good inspection is very important for the school, as its impact is felt in four key areas:

- It gives us a stronger position in the local community, ensuring we are oversubscribed with families that want us as their first choice for their child's education – this in itself has an impact on students' approach to education.
- It gives the school a stronger position in the recruitment market – attracting high quality teachers to teach in a Good school can be easier with this better reputation.
- It enables the school to focus on school improvement in a different way, with an increased focus on innovation in the classroom.
- There has been a core group of staff that have been here for longer than a decade, and have always been good or outstanding, and have shown loyalty to the school despite some difficult periods in its history – this outcome repays their loyalty to the school.

Achieving an 'Outstanding' grading in Personal Development and Welfare also means the school receives the recognition for its hard work in these areas, which is rarely seen with the focus purely on league tables and statistics. There is a large team of staff that go above and beyond what other schools do to support our students, and this is a well-deserved accolade for the work they do.

Read the full report: <https://www.robertnapier.org.uk/page/?title=Ofsted&pid=26>

The full report is available for you to download from our website, and is available in hard copy in our reception. Please take the time to read it and know in detail what Ofsted think of the quality of your child's education.

I would publicly like to thank the students, staff and parents for their continued efforts in supporting the school, and for helping us strive to secure the best life chances for the students in our care. I look forward to working with you all more closely, as we push towards Outstanding.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Minchin  
Headteacher