



October 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We are happy to share with you with the report from our OFSTED Visit in September. The full report is on our website and on the OFSTED portal. This was a monitoring visit to ensure that the school is taking the right actions to achieve the very best for our pupils. This report is still technically under UOBAT leadership as we do not formally move to Mulberry until after Christmas.

I am pleased to say that we are working on the right things and are making progress. They have recognised that 'Leaders have moved swiftly to take the right actions.' They also recognised the impact and value of the 'external' support we have been getting from Mulberry.

They were really impressed with our students who over the two days were polite and did us proud. They behaved brilliantly. Thank you also to parents who completed the survey and the positive comments that you wrote.

The team of four of His Majesty's Inspectors picked out many positives from two days.

- The school has created a pleasant and harmonious environment for all
- A well embedded safeguarding culture is evident with both pupils and staff expressing positive views.
- We are fully staffed compared to the last inspection.
- Attendance is improving. Fewer pupils are now absent or persistently absent.
- Staff are now better equipped to check how well pupils understand the curriculum
- Staff use their strong subject knowledge to model learning effectively
- Staff explain new vocabulary and concepts clearly
- Staff accurately identify misconceptions and gaps in pupil's knowledge
- The school has improved pupils enjoyment of reading as well the teaching of subject specific vocabulary.
- SEN students are fully included in lessons
- SEN needs are identified accurately
- Staff model warm, respectful relationships in their interactions with pupils
- The start of the school day and lesson changeovers are calm and swift
- The school's revised approach to behaviour is working well.
- The school has a range of strategies to support those who find it difficult to meet expectations
- Leadership are ambitious to improve pupils experiences
- Leaders work is starting to show impact

Areas for development are

- To ensure consistency of teaching across all lessons.
- A clearer approach to support the weakest readers.
- Continue to develop adaptive practice for SEN students in lessons
- Some can be passive and not 'always committed to learning' in lessons.
- More work is needed with our students to show that 'banter' is unacceptable.
- Continue to improve attendance

Next week I will write to you with some more updates. Your support is much appreciated.

Many thanks

Jon Francies

Principal The St Leonards Academy

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