

15th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

An external validation visit was undertaken at Queen Elizabeth II High School on 29th and 30th January 2024 as part of a programme of external validation of schools commissioned by The Isle of Man Department of Education, Sport and Culture (DESC). The aim of the external validation visit was to promote continuous improvement and to deliver consistency, share best practice and deliver positive outcomes for children and young people. The visit was undertaken by two external, independent external validators from Tribal Education.

External Validators looked at a wide range of evidence presented by school leaders, including the school self-evaluation, and sampled the work of the school during the visit. These activities were focussed on key areas based on the self-evaluation of the school and included visits to a cross-section of lessons, meetings with staff and pupils, gathering the views of parents where appropriate and scrutiny of documentation.

During the visit, external validators considered key areas of focus which were explored in collaboration with school leaders to validate school leaders' own evaluations.

Positive relationships and an understanding of the rounded personal and academic development of every student are at the heart of the school's vision for learning, and the actions which arise from it. Students are known and valued as individuals from the outset.

The school has a clear, compelling and shared ambition for an inclusive and highly personalised learning experience for every young person. This is reflected in the wide range of subjects on offer at every phase of learning and the daily experience of students within and beyond their classrooms. It in turn shapes a shared culture which is ambitious for all pupils and is 'lived' across the whole school community.

The foundations of excellence in teaching and learning have been put in place and have a positive impact on student progress and achievement as they move through the school. However, the school is not complacent about its successes and continues to work tirelessly to ensure that best practice is sustained and consistent across the whole curriculum. School leaders are continually reviewing their assessment procedures to ensure that they inform both subject and whole school priorities moving forward.

Learning and teaching is inclusive across all areas of the school and supports students to succeed based on their individual needs. For example, there is very creative thinking in relation to the integration of the Hub, Outreach, Specialist Provision Centre and Learning Support Departments, which reflects the whole school vision for a genuinely personalised offer and commitment to inclusivity. School leaders recognise the need to plan for the future to ensure students are supported to apply their learning within an ever-increasing digital landscape.

Parents and students greatly value the quality of relationships with staff, culture of mutual trust and breadth of curriculum offer. The school is ambitious for every student and focussed



on the next stage of its development to continue to impact positively on your children, who greatly enjoy their rich and varied experiences here.

The areas of growth identified above, as part of the external validation visit, are being reviewed and actioned by the school as part of a continuous cycle of self-evaluation.

Kind Regards

Nicola Morris

Lead Validator

External Validation Team