



Stamford
Endowed
Schools

independent schools for independent minds

Stamford School

ISI Inspection Report 2017

Excellence Abounds at Stamford School



Introduction from the Head

In September 2017, Stamford School was inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), the body approved by the Government for the inspection of independent schools. The inspection assessed the 'Quality of Pupils' Academic and Other Achievements', the 'Quality of Pupils' Personal Development' and Regulatory Compliance. Inspections like this only take place once every six years, so present a very distinct and important opportunity for the school to be scrutinised in considerable depth.

The findings were outstanding. The School was rated as 'Excellent' (the highest level of achievement) in both of the categories: the 'Quality of Pupils' Academic and Other Achievements', and the 'Quality of Pupils' Personal Development'.

Academic achievement was recognised across the board along with the benefits of the Stamford co-curricular offering and the outstanding pastoral care. Independent learning and intellectual curiosity (ILIC) feature regularly in the report as being of great benefit to our pupils. Many of the inspectors' comments show that Stamfordian Spirit is strongly in evidence with references to the hard work, resilience, ambition, awareness of others and kindness of our boys.

We were particularly pleased with the high level of parental feedback. The parents of more than five hundred boys at the School responded to the independent inspection questionnaire completed just prior to the inspection itself and used to guide aspects of the ensuing inspection. The results showed overwhelming parental support across all of the seventeen areas, with many categories – such as those relating to the school's values;

the way that teaching enables progress; the co-curricular opportunities; the leadership of the School – seeing satisfaction ratings above 99%.

In addition, the School was fully compliant with ISI regulations which included a thorough assessment of its pastoral, health and safety, staff recruitment, medical and boarding policies and procedures as well as its overall estate.

These considerable achievements are the result of the Stamford community working together. Pupils, staff, parents and Governors have shown total dedication in ensuring that the School continues to provide an excellent standard of teaching, while inspiring and supporting their pupils. Our thanks go to all those who have helped us to achieve this great endorsement.

The main findings can be read in this brochure. All comments below have been extracted **directly from the inspection report** which can be found, in full, on our website at www.ses.lincs.sch.uk/stamfordschool/inspectionreport.



Nick Gallop,
Head
Stamford School



Will Phelan
Principal
Stamford Endowed Schools



Michael Dronfield
Chair of Governors
Stamford Endowed Schools

“The Quality of Pupils’ Academic and Other Achievements is excellent.”

“Much success is achieved in national academic competitions in subjects areas ranging from science and mathematics to the arts and design and technology. Pupils achieve excellent results in debating, subject Olympiads, Arkwright scholarships and national essay competitions.”

- The school fully meets its aim to inspire young people to achieve their best.
- Pupils’ attitudes towards learning are extremely positive.
- Pupils write fluently and at length in a wide range of subject areas.
- Pupils demonstrate excellent numeracy skills, which they use with confidence across a range of subjects.
- Intellectual curiosity is strongly promoted and pupils show great perseverance in solving problems and responding to challenges.
- Pupils demonstrate substantial debating skills and are equally skilled and prolific in drama.
- Pupils’ musical skills are highly developed.
- Pupils consistently perform to a very high level in an extremely wide range of sports.
- Pupils are self-motivated and productive when working independently, relishing the opportunity to work on projects that are linked but not intrinsic to the curriculum.



“Pupils are able to develop their study skills through innovative programmes that encourage them think for themselves, for example the Independent learning and intellectual curiosity (ILIC) and Habits of Mind initiatives, which have been introduced to ensure the inclusion of higher level skills in the curriculum at an earlier age.”



“The Quality of Pupils’ Personal Development is excellent.”

“Almost all parents in the pre-inspection questionnaire agreed that the school promotes an environment which successfully supports their child’s personal development.”



- The school helps pupils to become well-grounded individuals who are considerate and respectful.
- Pupils demonstrate great empathy, gentleness and generosity of spirit.
- Pupils demonstrate high levels of self-knowledge, self-confidence and resilience.
- Senior boys do all they can to help younger pupils.



- Pupils have a strong awareness of, and respect for, health and safety and how it impacts on their everyday lives.
- Pupils show high levels of integrity.
- Pupils have a very well developed sense of social responsibility, with a clear understanding of the value of helping those less fortunate than themselves.



“Intellectual curiosity is strongly promoted and pupils show great perseverance in solving problems and responding to challenges, encouraged by an environment where individual success and enterprise are fostered and celebrated.”



Boarding at Stamford School

“Pupils are very tolerant and accepting of those from different backgrounds and cultures, recognising the value of a diverse community, as a result of which overseas pupils in the boarding houses are quickly integrated into the community.”



“There is a very strong sense of community in the school, particularly in the boarding houses, and pupils are noticeably proud of the strong family atmosphere.”

