Essex County Council School Effectiveness Team Education and Social Care County Hall Chelmsford Essex CM2 6WN



12th October 2023

SENT BY EMAIL Craig Jansen, Headteacher Marshland High School, Wisbech

Dear Craig,

We are writing on behalf of the School Effectiveness Team, Essex Local Authority to thank you for welcoming us to Marshland High School.

The exemplary conduct of your pupils, who were very welcoming and respectful to us, and the willingness of staff to showcase their hard work and reflect on feedback is a credit to your leadership.

We are looking forward to collaborative work with you on the aspects of best practice we identified below:

- Leaders are committed to developing an ambitious curriculum. The Deputy Headteacher (curriculum) works collaboratively with leaders to ensure that the curriculum is delivered to a high standard. This is underpinned by a systemic approach to quality assurance.
- Leaders have thought carefully about the reading curriculum, which also sits at the heart of the disadvantaged strategy. Leaders, particularly the lead for the disadvantaged strategy and the lead on literacy focus, ensure that robust diagnostic assessments are used to identify reading gaps. Careful thought is given to planning interventions.
- The Senior Trust Assistant SENco is highly ambitious for all pupils, she spoke confidently and with passion about the SEND department's strategic plans. She has worked collaboratively with the Local Authority and other external agencies to ensure that pupils with significant special educational needs and/or disabilities have very clear plans and targets. With support from the Local Authority, the SEND Hub provides a well-adapted curriculum to pupils who otherwise would not be able to access the curriculum in a mainstream school.
- A Year 7 pupil who attends the SEND Hub explained that one of the most important and positive aspects of attending the Hub is the 'instant live marking, it helps me to understand my work quickly with help from my teacher'.
- The character and culture leads have developed a curriculum which contributes to developing wellrounded and knowledgeable young people. Leaders ensure that positive behaviour is celebrated at Marshland High School. This contributes to the purposeful, calm, and harmonious atmosphere witnessed in lessons.

All the very best to you and your school community as you move on to the next stages in the school's work.

Very best wishes in the important work you do.

Yours sincerely

M Mackman

Martine Mackman School Effectiveness Partner Education Directorate, Essex County Council

A Sappong

Anthony Sappong School Effectiveness Partner Education Directorate, Essex County Council