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Mr M David
Principal and Chief Executive
Reaseheath College
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Dear Mr David

Ofsted survey inspection programme – 14-19 reforms

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff and students during my visit on 25 September 2007 as part of our survey on 14-19 developments in the local area.

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our national evaluation and reporting. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing institutions, but individual institutions will not be identified in the main text.

Reaseheath College is highly inclusive and has a very strong commitment to providing vocational opportunities to young people in the area with a strong focus on opportunities in land based industries. It has demonstrated a strong commitment to partnership working in the local area and has agreed to lead on the developments for Cheshire Local Authority in the land based diploma. Whilst developments are at a very early stage there is strong commitment from local schools and employers.

The college offers a broad curriculum for students aged 16 to 18 with excellent enrichment opportunities and clear progression routes. Successful young apprenticeship programmes have been introduced in food manufacturing and motor vehicle. The college is very supportive of local schools, including special schools, and tries very hard to meet their needs with a very good range of vocational taster courses at level 1, courses for students with learning difficulties and disabilities (LDD) needs, young apprentices and an alternative curriculum offer for vulnerable pupils at risk of dropping out of the education system. Guidance and support are outstanding and pupils from high schools quickly settle into learning at the college.

The success rates and progression rates of pupils who have benefited from a vocational course at the college are high. However, the college should monitor more closely the impact of its provision for students aged 14 to 16.

If there are any points or aspects of the visit you wish to discuss, please get in touch. As we will be evaluating the survey, you may be contacted in the future to find out your views. I hope you will contribute to this evaluation. Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely

Bev Barlow
Her Majesty's Inspector