

04 February 2008

Dr R Strutt
Principal
Central Sussex College
College Road
Crawley
RH10 1NR

Dear Dr Strutt

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 Tuesday 22 January 2008 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.

Central Sussex College post merger, has developed its curriculum appropriately to meet the needs and interests of young people in the local area. This includes the expansion of vocational courses and courses below level 3 as well as Young Apprenticeships. Success rates and progression for students at 16 from Increased Flexibility Programmes to college courses are good. A good range of progression pathways for students from foundation to HE are in place. Particular strengths include a strong commitment to inclusion for students with learning difficulties and disabilities, especially those with severe, profound and multiple disabilities. Good access is provided for these students on appropriately designed vocational courses in a special school.

Guidance and support for students is good. Links with partner schools ensure smooth transition of students from school to college through the sharing of sound information on students' prior attainment and support needs.

The college is demonstrating strong strategic partnership working. This has contributed greatly to planning and preparation to take forward the 14-19 reforms in the local area.

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

Meena Wood
Her Majesty's Inspector