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Mr D Percival
Principal
Northbrook College
Littlehampton Road
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Dear Mr Percival

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 Wednesday 23 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.

Northbrook College is developing its curriculum appropriately to meet the needs and interests of young people in the local area. This includes the expansion of its vocational courses and courses below level 3 and in particular, successful Young Apprenticeship courses. Success rates and progression for students from Increased Flexibility Programmes to college courses at 16 are good. The college is collaborating well with local schools and colleges and exhibits a strong commitment to collaborative curriculum planning. The college's strategic role in the partnership, together with the good communication the college has with partner schools, has contributed greatly to the successful planning and preparation for taking forward the 14-19 reforms in the local area.

To further develop advice, guidance and support for students, it would be helpful to work with partners to:

- improve the quality of the information provided on entry to college courses regarding individual students' basic skills, aptitude and support needs
- clarify how students will access the learning support they need.

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