

12 March 2008

Mrs E Allen
Headteacher
Newstead Wood School for Girls
Avebury Road
Orpington
Kent
BR6 9SA

Dear Mrs Allen

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 05 March 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. This report, which will be produced in the summer of 2008, will highlight good practice and identify improvements to be made. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing institutions, but individual institutions will not be identified in the main text.

Strengths in the school's development of the 14-19 curriculum:

- delivering high standards for all of its learners
- a curriculum that provides a challenging academic education for the most able learners
- ensuring learners understand the challenges and opportunities of the Diploma in engineering
- playing a lead role in the development and planning for the Diploma
- involving employers and universities in its planning for the curriculum.

Areas for development include:

- providing sufficient opportunities for learners who have the aptitude and wish to study vocational or applied courses
- ensuring that learners have sufficient understanding of courses provided by other institutions in the area and are fully aware of the details of courses they have opted for in the sixth form.

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

Carolyn Carnaghan
Additional Inspector