

10 July 2008

Mrs Carol Cawkwell
Headteacher
The Hathershaw College of Sport and Technology
Bellfield Avenue
Hathershaw
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Dear Mrs Cawkwell

Ofsted Thematic Survey Programme 2008-09

Social Responsibility and Community Cohesion

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation during our recent visit. We are particularly grateful to you and all your staff for the hard work involved in preparing for the visit and for giving up your time during the visit to meet us. Please pass on our thanks to all those concerned, including your students.

The visit provided much useful evidence for the further development of community cohesion. We noted, in particular:

- The school puts its strong knowledge of the community to very good use in preparing students for transition, both into Year 7 and on into the sixth form.
- Organisational and curriculum structures, such as the 'family' vertical pastoral system, classroom groupings and sports opportunities, support cohesion.
- The school monitors students' overall progress, including behaviour, very effectively; it ensures up-to-date knowledge is shared with parents and carers.
- Innovative staffing and curriculum policies ensure that students have vibrant experiences at school, local, national and international levels.

The published survey report will list the names of the contributing institutions in an appendix. Should we wish to cite specific aspects of the good practice observed on this visit in the form of a detailed case study, we will contact you first. We will notify you of the date of publication of the survey report when it is confirmed and provide you with details of any other arrangements to disseminate the survey's findings.

Yours sincerely

Anne Feltham
Her Majesty's Inspector