

12 December 2008

Mrs E Hilton  
Headteacher  
Walkden High School  
Birch Road  
Worsley  
Manchester  
M28 7FJ

Dear Mrs Hilton

Ofsted survey inspection programme – 14-19 reforms

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and students, during my visit on 02 December 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.

Overall, the contribution the school is making towards the implementation of the Creative and Media Diploma and functional skills by the consortium is good. I outline the main findings as bullet points below.

The main strengths are:

- a very good commitment by the school to ensuring the success of the Creative and Media Diploma
- good recruitment and retention of students to the school's Creative and Media Diploma course
- good practice in the development of excellent links with a local community television channel to enhance the students' media work
- a good, professional approach to the assessment of students' work which is supporting well their progress on the course.

Areas for further development:

- help to develop further opportunities for common approaches to quality assurance and the moderation of students' work across the partnership
- the more effective promotion of the on-line prospectus for students' use.

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

Michael Miller  
Additional Inspector