

17 December 2008

Mr P Crompton
Principal
Pendleton College
Dronsfield Road
Salford
M6 7FR

Dear Mr Crompton

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 Thursday 4th 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 college 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:

- the important role played by the college in leading the development of the Creative and Media Diploma, and other diplomas, across the partnership
- a good commitment to ensuring entitlement and access to future Diploma lines for all students aged 14-19
- a very positive approach to inclusion and support for students with learning difficulties or disabilities on the Creative and Media Diploma course
- clear strategic thinking through the quality of the College's overall curriculum planning for the Creative and Media Diploma course
- the very good ability of the college's specialist teachers to foster and promote through the course the students' creativity and imagination
- good attention to assessment and formative approaches to aid students' progress.

Areas for further development:

- help to develop further opportunities for common approaches to quality assurance and the moderation of students' work across the partnership

- continued work to ensure the integration of relevant functional skills into principal learning within the Creative and Media Diploma course
- work to promote the development and establishment of the virtual learning environment (VLE) as a common resource across the partnership.

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