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05 February 2009

Mr P Hockey
Vice Principal
City College Plymouth
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Dear Mr Hockey

Ofsted survey inspection programme – 14-19 reforms

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and learners during my visit and that of my colleague Clive Moss HMI on 26 and 27 January 2009 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.

City College Plymouth has demonstrated strong commitment to working productively with its partners, and is making a very good contribution to 14-19 developments across Plymouth. The college provides a good and successful range of provision for 14-16 year olds and has also taken an active role in developing the engineering and construction Diplomas.

The college provides a good range of industry standard equipment and specialist resources and training aids. Links with engineering employers are wide ranging and they contribute well to the range of specialist resources available to learners. However, plans are insufficiently clear as to how and when employers will contribute to the delivery of specific Diploma units.

Students on the advanced level engineering Diploma are enthusiastic about their work, but they have limited awareness and understanding of how the different Diploma components make up the qualification.

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

Joy Montgomery
Her Majesty's Inspector