

30 January 2009

Ms E Jones  
Headteacher  
Abbey Manor College  
40 Falmouth Close  
Lee  
London  
SE12 8PJ

Dear Ms Jones

Ofsted Thematic Survey Programme 2008-09

Social Responsibility and Community Cohesion

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation during my 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 me. Please pass on our thanks to all those concerned, including your pupils.

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

- The senior leadership team has an outstanding vision of how to work with students in order to help them achieve their potential. It is prepared to take risks, to try new things and to evaluate in order to meet individual needs, while maintaining a strong sense of the college as a shared community.
- The college has very high expectations of its students, who all follow an individually designed vocational curriculum, and they achieve very highly. The vast majority of students go on to further education locally and they are supported to do this by the college which provides a learning mentor for the first six months.
- The college works very effectively with many other agencies locally, including the local social services and the police, to ensure that students are supported to become responsible citizens. Students are encouraged to understand that they are able to influence their future and have to make responsible choices.
- The college works well with health service professionals to meet the needs of students with severe difficulties and it is looking at how it can further meet the needs of adolescents with a wider range of mental health problems.

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

Jo Peach  
Additional Inspector