

30 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Re: Ofsted Inspection Report**

We are writing to let you know about the recent Ofsted inspection at Stocksbridge High School.

Unfortunately, the school has been categorised as requiring 'Significant Improvement'.

This news is undoubtedly disappointing for all of us who care deeply about the success and wellbeing of our students and community. The inspection was conducted under the new inspection framework that was introduced in September 2025, which focuses on more detailed scrutiny on schools and increases the standards expected.

As Headteacher and CEO, the areas for development have been quickly identified and the Senior Leadership Team, with the support of the Minerva Learning Trust, have already made significant changes, which were recognised by Ofsted in the report card. In many cases due to the changes being relatively new, we were not able to fully show the impact of these strategies at the time of inspection.

We want to assure you that we are committed to continue to address the areas for improvement identified in the report card. A comprehensive plan has already been developed and we are already working diligently to implement this, with the support, expertise and resources of Minerva Learning Trust, to ensure that we meet and exceed the standards expected of us and to ensure all of our students receive the very best education.

We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the students, parents and carers who completed the surveys and provided honest and overwhelmingly positive feedback.

Our vision for Stocksbridge High School is one of high standards of behaviour and academic excellence. We are dedicated to creating an inclusive environment where all young people are supported to succeed. Every student deserves the opportunity to achieve their full potential, and we are committed to making this a reality.

To support us in this endeavour, the Trust is working intensely with us to quickly address the areas for improvement, using the expertise and resources that we have to enhance the quality of education and support provided.

To achieve these goals, we need your support. By working together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of your children. Your involvement and cooperation are crucial as we strive to create a positive and effective learning environment. This starts with great attendance so that all children can access our educational offer and be supported to achieve and thrive.

For more detailed information, you can read the full Ofsted Report Card by following the link below:

<https://stocksbridgehigh.co.uk/df-and-policies/school-ofsted-report>

We understand that this outcome may be worrying for you as parents, and we want to ensure that you are fully informed and involved in our plans. Therefore, we would like to invite you to a parent engagement meeting, on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm in the School Hall, where we will discuss our action plan in detail and address any questions or concerns you may have.

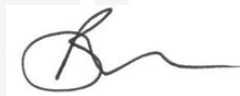
So that we can manage the evening, we ask that questions are sent in advance to: [htaylor@stocksbridge-mlt.co.uk](mailto:htaylor@stocksbridge-mlt.co.uk) by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. We will formulate these into 'Frequently Asked Questions' which we will respond to on the night.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding and together, we can ensure that Stocksbridge High School becomes a place where every student is able to 'Believe, Achieve and Succeed'.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Williams  
Headteacher  
Stocksbridge High School



Bev Matthews  
Chief Executive Officer  
Minerva Learning Trust