

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009

Dear Parent / Carer,

### **Ofsted Feedback – October 2009**

Today a letter has gone to all students from the Lead Inspector of our recent Ofsted inspection. The letter is dated October 2<sup>nd</sup> because the draft version was written at the same time as the inspection but we only received the final version of the report this week. The letter outlines the main findings from the inspection but I wanted to provide you with a little more detail. The full report is available from the college website.

The inspection framework changed in September and whereas in the past the inspection represented a 'snapshot' of school performance in one year, Ofsted are now looking at the three year trend for performance. For us this meant that although our results this year showed significant improvement, the judgement overall could not be higher than satisfactory because we have not demonstrated this level of high performance over time.

The main findings are as follows:

- Melbourn Village College is a satisfactory and improving school
- Examination results improved significantly in English and mathematics in 2009
- Leaders and managers have identified accurately areas for improvement
- Subjects, options and courses increasingly meet the needs of students
- Progress is good in dance, drama, French, PE and Society, Health and Development
- Arrangements to ensure Year 7 students settle into the school are very effective
- The quality of care and guidance students receive is good
- Students feel safe in and around the school and say that bullying is dealt with effectively
- Behaviour is good
- Actions to improve attendance have been successful
- Participation rates in PE clubs outside of timetabled lessons and in inter-school competitions are good
- Students particularly enjoy the regular performance of plays, the orchestra and sporting activities

What does the school need to do to improve further?

- Sharpen the focus of leadership on improving teaching and learning further, so as to accelerate the progress made by students
- Increase the proportion of good or better teaching in order to improve students' progress and raise attainment further
- Develop a more rigorous approach to monitoring the learning and progress made by individual groups of learners in order to plan more effective support

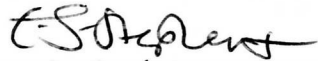
The recommendations from the report will form the basis of our improvement plan for 2009-2010.

We know that our results this year have proved that we are a good school and our provisional contextual value added score (i.e. how much progress students have made since entering the school) for these results is significantly above the national average.

We are totally committed to improving the experience and achievement of all students and our aim is to become an outstanding school in the near future.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Stephenson', written in a cursive style.

Elaine Stephenson  
Warden