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**THE WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST - A JOURNEY TO OUTSTANDING
OFSTED INSPECTIONS**

Leeds East Academy: GOOD
Leeds West Academy: GOOD
**Leeds City Academy: GOOD with OUTSTANDING for Leadership and
Management**

The White Rose Academies Trust really are on a journey to Outstanding and, following recent Ofsted inspections, the end of that journey is now even closer!

The Trust consists of three secondary academies; Leeds City Academy in Woodhouse, Leeds 6; Leeds East Academy in Seacroft and Leeds West Academy in Rodley. Ofsted carried out two day inspections at all three academies within a five week period starting with Leeds East on 24th and 25th April 2019, Leeds West Academy on 14th and 15th May 2019 and most recently Leeds City Academy on 21st and 22nd May 2019.

Since the last inspections in 2017 where all three academies were judged by Ofsted as 'Requires Improvement', the Trust has been on a journey of rapid improvement. Significant work has taken place throughout the schools to raise standards in the quality of teaching, attendance and behaviour, which has resulted in a significant improvement in the progress students make.

The visits from Ofsted were welcomed by both staff and students who were all proud to show the inspectors the improvements which have taken place.

Leeds East Academy – Judged as GOOD in all areas of the Ofsted framework

This is a fantastic achievement for the school and local community as in 2016 the school delivered results significantly below the floor target and was also the worst performing school in Leeds. Since the last inspection, staff at the academy have transformed the quality of education on offer, taking the school from being in the lowest 10% of performing schools in the country to a school in the 9th percentile nationally by August 2017, continuing that trajectory of improvement in 2018 and 2019.

This result of the latest Ofsted inspection is a significant milestone for the school community and represents the first time in the 50-year history of a secondary school being on the South Parkway, Seacroft site that it has been judged as 'Good'.

Below are just some of the quotes from Ofsted regarding the Academy which have been taken from the latest Ofsted report:

“Leaders’ aspirations for the school are high”.

“There is a palpable sense of togetherness among staff”.

“Teachers have a deep knowledge of pupils’ needs and plan lessons effectively to meet these needs, including of those with SEND, those who are disadvantaged and the most able”.

“One pupil said, ‘These teachers don’t give up on you easily’.

“It is common to see pupils eager to learn from their mistakes, because of the heightened expectations from staff. Pupils know their targets and they know what they need to do to get better marks.”

“A school in which young people can be themselves and that other pupils are tolerant and inclusive of any differences, including of gender, sexuality and ethnicity.”

“Pupils’ behaviour was impeccable... founded on the mutually respectful relationships which have been established between staff and pupils.”

“Across a range of subjects and years, current pupils are making strong progress from their starting points.”

“A culture of reading is promoted in the school.”

Mrs Sarah Carrie, Principal of the school commented ***“I could not feel a greater sense of pride with regards to the continuous professionalism of the staffing body at Leeds East Academy and the impeccable conduct and***

ambition which our amazing pupils have demonstrated over the last two years. The judgement is testament to everyone's hard work and dedication".

Leeds West Academy – judged as GOOD in all areas of the Ofsted framework

The Leeds West Academy report praises the school's leadership, stating that "The Principal, senior and middle leaders have tackled the weaknesses identified at the school's last inspection in a highly principled and purposeful way. They have secured the strong support of staff who share their ambitious vision and inclusive values". Inspectors also judged arrangements for safeguarding as being effective, reporting that "there is a strong and embedded culture of identifying and supporting pupils who need help and protection".

Below are some of the Ofsted quotes about Leeds West Academy, taken from the latest inspection report:

"The quality of education provided by Leeds West Academy has improved rapidly and is now good".

"There has been a substantial improvement in the progress pupils are making... This is as a result of... rapid improvement in the quality of teaching, learning and assessment".

"Pupils work hard and conduct themselves well. Typically, they behave in a polite and respectful way".

"High expectations and strong routines contribute well to pupils' personal development and behaviour".

Pupils are developing important qualities... which are helping them to be successful learners".

Principal, Mr Christian Wilcocks said ***"I feel incredibly proud of this report, this is a monumental achievement and a strong recognition of our amazing students and the incredible work of our staff. Our community deserves a great school and this report clearly acknowledges our inclusive values and the strong ambition we hold for each and every one of our students. This is just the beginning for us; we still have work to do and will work tirelessly to ensure every student who chooses to join us receives a world-class education".***

Leeds City Academy – Judged as GOOD for Quality of teaching, learning and assessment, Personal development, behaviour and welfare, Outcomes for pupils and Overall effectiveness. Judged as OUTSTANDING for Effectiveness of Leadership and Management

The results of this inspection are really something to celebrate. In the past the school, previously known as City of Leeds School, has been at risk of closure due to the lack of student numbers and the poor reputation. The Academy serves the poorest 3% of communities in the UK and has over 76% of students who are English as an additional language (EAL). Over 45 different languages are spoken at the school. The rapid improvements which have taken place at this academy over the last two years are truly ground-breaking.

The Ofsted report displays a monumental achievement for the school and local community and represents the seismic shift in the quality of education provided and enjoyed at the school.

Below are some of the Ofsted quotes taken from the report regarding Leeds **City Academy**:

“Exceptional leadership from the highly skilled senior leadership team has improved all aspects of the school. The school’s culture is now inclusive and aspirational”.

“Pupils develop the resilience needed to rise to the challenges set by staff. The school has been transformed and its overall effectiveness improved”.

“As a result of good teaching, most pupils in the school now make good progress from their starting points across a range of subjects”.

“Pupils conduct themselves very well in lessons and around the school. They are confident, polite and courteous to one another”.

Mr Richard Chattoe, Principal of the academy commented, ***“This is a truly remarkable achievement and testament to the unwavering professionalism and dedication of the staff body. Our pupils are simply amazing and continue to strive for improvement and excellence. This has been a true example of what special things can happen when students, staff and parents work in partnership. The future is extremely bright and I am very excited about what the future holds for our bright young people.”***

Mr Andrew Whitaker, the Executive Principal of The White Rose Academies Trust who joined in September 2016 said ***“The White Rose Academies Trust feels immensely proud to serve the communities in which our academies are based. Over the last few years our students, staff and wider community have come together in a truly special way to begin the transformation of Leeds City Academy, Leeds East Academy and Leeds West Academy, that over the next three years will see each of these schools being judged as World Class providers of education. The recent validation of our progress to date, by***

OFSTED, has been very pleasing indeed. The Trust is very fortunate to be sponsored by Leeds City College and to be a member of the industry leading Luminare Education Group.

On behalf of the Trust, I would like to congratulate Mr Chattoe, Mrs Carrie and Mr Wilcocks for their impressive guardianship of our schools and I look forward to seeing what these organisations will become under their astute and visionary leadership”.

Although staff and students at the three academies see these Ofsted ratings as something to celebrate, they also see this as milestone on their rapid and relentless journeys to becoming truly 'world-class' schools.

NOTES TO EDITOR:

The White Rose Academies Trust is sponsored by Leeds City College, part of The Luminare Education Group (incorporating Leeds City College, Keighley College, Leeds College of Music, Harrogate College (joining in coming weeks) and The White Rose Academies Trust).

Areas of the Ofsted Framework:

Overall effectiveness

Effectiveness of Leadership and Management

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment

Personal development, behaviour and welfare

Outcomes for pupils

For more information or images, please contact Yvonne Hare, Head of Communications and Projects, at Hare.Y@whiteroseacademies.org or call **0113 229 54 54**.