

Press Release Immediate Release 19 July 2024

## **Coventry School Rated Good in all Areas**

Young people hospitalised with mental health needs are receiving an education which is restoring their "hope for the future" according to Ofsted inspectors who rated a Coventry school Good in all areas.

In June, the Summit School at Cygnet Joyce Parker Hospital underwent a full, unannounced, inspection by the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted).

The school is the education provider for all young people admitted to Cygnet Joyce Parker Hospital, on Lansdowne Road, which offers Child and Adolescent Mental Health services.

Following the recent inspection, it is rated Good in all key areas; quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development and leadership and management.

The report highlighted the commitment of the school to ensuring that each student has a bespoke curriculum unique to their needs and how pupils are learning skills and experiences to keep themselves safe, be healthy or develop personal visions for jobs and the workplace.

It read: "Care, hope and understanding surround the pupils at Summit School. 'Learning to be all that you can be' is more than a vision statement; staff see it instead as a call to action to change the lives of each young person in their care. From often very difficult and traumatic lives, Summit empowers a sense of ambition and belief for pupils who attend.

"Pupils are positive about the support and care they receive. Consequently, there is often a calm, purposeful, and productive environment."

Head-teacher Debra Eason said: "I am so proud of our school. Our students and staff have demonstrated that Summit School is an excellent provider for young people with varying levels of mental health.

"Our values of Care, Empower, Respect, Trust and Integrity have created stability for many students to provide a pathway back into society. I am delighted with our 'Good' rating, but we will always strive to improve. The result also shows that we are shaping a better future for all our students, no matter how long they are with us.

"I would like to take the opportunity to show my sincere gratitude to all the committed, dedicated staff who work tirelessly to ensure the young people leave Summit School in a much better place than they started".

As well as speaking with staff, Ofsted inspectors held focus groups with parents and students to discuss behaviour and attitudes to learning, with a key focus on how well supported young people felt within the school.

The report added: "Parents who spoke to inspectors said that school sessions were the highlight of their days for their children and that all staff were committed to keeping their education on track.

"Summit works closely with parents, carers and pupils to overcome the barriers caused by a difficult growing up journey.

"The school's partnership with the clinical and care staff develops a strong understanding of the pupils' mental health needs and the support they need for learning.

"Well-planned and considered visits to places of interest restore pupils' relationships with the world around them and inspire awe and wonder."

Inspectors also met with the school staff to gain insight on their experiences of working at the school, and said: "Staff closely monitor pupils' class attendance and how they engage best in learning. The resulting information helps staff construct a plan to overcome barriers to being in school more and build enjoyment in being with staff and learning.

"Consequently, over time, pupils restore their faith in education and empower their self belief."

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