

July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

We are pleased to share the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection, which took place in June 2026.

The inspection recognised a number of important strengths across Appleton Academy and confirmed that safeguarding standards are met. Inspectors highlighted the positive work taking place in attendance, inclusion, personal development and wellbeing, and our early years provision.

We are particularly pleased that Ofsted recognised:

- The improvements in attendance across the school, with attendance rates now broadly in line with national averages.
- The strong support provided for disadvantaged pupils and pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).
- The positive relationships between pupils and staff and the inclusive culture that exists throughout the academy.
- Our personal development programme, including PSHE, careers education, pastoral support and opportunities for pupils to develop beyond the classroom.
- The quality of our early years provision, which inspectors described as a "happy, welcoming place" where children enjoy learning and develop confidence and independence.

Inspectors also recognised the many opportunities available to pupils, including educational visits, volunteering activities, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the Scholars Programme. They noted that pupils feel safe, value the support they receive and enjoy being part of the Appleton Academy community.

The report identifies areas where further improvement is needed, particularly in the secondary phase, to strengthen curriculum implementation and continue improving pupil outcomes – we welcome this feedback. Inspectors acknowledged that leaders have already taken action and that evidence of improvement is beginning to emerge. We remain fully committed to ensuring every pupil receives the highest quality education and we are confident that the improvements already underway will continue to make a positive difference.

This inspection reflects both the strengths of our school and our determination to continue improving. We would like to thank our pupils, staff, governors and families for their ongoing support and commitment to our academy.

The full Ofsted report can be viewed by following the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/6je8cjsb>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Ms H Jones
Executive Headteacher