



Independent inspection grades schools as ‘excellent’

The personal and academic progress of students at Victoria College and Victoria College Preparatory School have been highly praised in an independent report, which has been received today (18 January 2018).

The Independent Schools’ Inspectorate (ISI), a recognised UK body that reviews independent British schools around the world, judged pupils’ personal development to be ‘Excellent’ at both Schools. Learning and achievement was graded as ‘Excellent’ at the Preparatory School and ‘Good’ at the College.

Both schools meet all the standards for British Schools Overseas. Passing Compliance with no recommendations is the highest possible achievement.

The Inspectors reserved particular praise for the high quality of pastoral care throughout the Schools, stating that pupils are developing into ‘thoughtful and sensitive young people’. The Report says: “Pupils are friendly, enjoy competition, are loyal and well-integrated; qualities that are underpinned by the Schools’ House system. Pupils are thoughtful, sensitive and courteous young people with excellent social skills.”

The two Schools, which together educate 928 pupils, received a three-day Compliance Inspection followed by a four-day Educational Quality Inspection in September and November 2017. The process was conducted by 10 experienced Inspectors and included a formal Inspection in each School where lessons were observed and books scrutinised; surveys of parent and student views as well as interviews with staff, Governors and students.

The Chair of the Board of Governors, Brian Watt, said: “The aim of the Inspection was to provide objective and reliable reports which help our schools to recognise and build on their strengths and to identify and remedy any areas for improvement. ISI were invited to inspect Victoria College because of their particular expertise with similar schools around the world. The recommendations from this Report will enable both schools to continue on their path of continuous improvement, which is the essence of the Schools’ Five-Year Strategic Plan.”

Cont’d...

Victoria College Headmaster, Alun Watkins and Victoria College Prep Headteacher, Dan Pateman were delighted with the outcome of such an intense period of scrutiny: “We are extremely pleased with the Report and it is a credit to our excellent staff teams and to our students. We really feel the Inspectors got to know both Schools and experienced life here for themselves. This is a Report of which we can all be proud. It has highlighted the many areas of excellence in our College community and the areas where improvements can be made.”

Key findings:

- The Schools have a strong sense of community and pupils are proud of their contribution to school life and the Island community.
- High academic standards are achieved by many in tests and public examinations.
- Excellence is achieved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.
- In most lessons, pupils’ attitude to work is excellent and they show engagement and interest.
- Pupils benefit from an extensive range of curriculum opportunities which are well resourced by Governance, Leadership and Management.

The College has already drawn up an Action Plan in response to the recommendations from the ISI Report. This includes a reorganisation and restructuring of the Learning Support Department; the Schools are in discussion with the Education Department regarding the Appraisal process; and intellectual competition at House level will feature prominently in School Council meetings this term. In the Prep School Improvement Plan, we are already creating opportunities for more of our pupils to take on positions of responsibility.

We are delighted with the successes and achievements highlighted in this Inspection Report and we look forward to implementing the recommendations through our Five-Year Strategic Plan.



Brian A Watt
Chair of the Board of Governors



Alun D Watkins
Headmaster VCJ



D Pateman
Headteacher VCP

Additional Information

ISI is an independent, Government approved Body which provides objective inspections to safeguard the quality and effectiveness of the education, care and welfare of children in schools. The Compliance Inspection was carried out in September 2017 and the Educational Quality Inspection was carried out in November 2017.

The Inspection framework focuses on three key areas: Pupil Achievement, Personal Development and Regulatory Compliance.

The Inspectorate judged the Schools to be fully compliant with all statutory regulations and requirements across a range of areas including the curriculum to health and safety, recruitment to governance, anti-bullying to safeguarding.

The full report can be found online on the ISI website at www.isi.net and on our own website at www.victoriacollege.je

For more details please contact the Headmaster VCJ, Alun Watkins at hmsecretary@vcj.sch.je or the Headteacher VCP, Dan Pateman at admin@vcp.sch.je