



Dear Parents and Carers,

Following our recent inspection, I am delighted to have been able to share with you the final Ofsted report earlier today, which confirms that Ilkley Grammar School has again been graded as **Outstanding in all areas**: Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, Sixth-Form Provision, and Leadership and Management.



This is an exceptional achievement and one which is richly deserved by our students, staff and the wider community. Although there is no longer an overall, single word judgement, the Outstanding outcomes in each of the 5 areas of the Ofsted framework reflect the quality of education, care, and support we provide, our high aspirations and standards, and a passion for providing wonderful opportunities and experiences for wider personal development. They are also a testament to our remarkable, talented students of whom I am extremely proud, as well as our committed and supportive staff, parents/carers, governors and trustees who all work together to make Ilkley Grammar School the Outstanding school I am so privileged to lead.

The Inspection Team, led by HMI Richard Jones, were effusive about the school and concluded that “Ilkley Grammar School is an amazing school” where “every pupil gets a chance to shine”. Sixth-form provision was also highlighted as “a shining light within school” with inspectors noting that “sixth-form students help set the positive tone for the whole school.”

Whilst we encourage you to read the full report, other key findings from the inspection are as follows:



- An extensive personal development offer ensures pupils achieve their personal best. School sports, trips and a vast range of clubs, including Model United Nations, creative writing and musical theatre, enable pupils to flourish.
- Pupils enjoy their lessons and behave in a way that enables deep, meaningful classroom learning.
- Staff are passionate about their subjects, and the impact of this is seen in the classroom.
- Whether pupils excel, or need extra help, this school supports them to fulfil their potential.
- The school offers a rich curriculum that ensures all students achieve well - there is ambition for all.
- Pupils achieve excellent, sustained outcomes over time. This is partly due to the holistic approach to the curriculum and bespoke, individualised, pastoral care.
- The school is fully inclusive. Staff believe every pupil can succeed, no matter their background or any challenge they may face

- The school is a calm environment where pupils behave exceptionally well.
- Staff are proactive in supporting families to remove barriers, offering support such as transport to school, wraparound care and mental health support.
- Pupils are knowledgeable about different beliefs and cultures as a result of the curriculum and well-designed activities
- The school also offers well-considered career support, including a ‘Future Fest’ career fair. Extensive links with industry and higher education help the pupils to make informed decisions
- School leaders have a clear and ambitious vision, which is instrumental in helping all pupils succeed.

With such glowing endorsements across quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management, and sixth-form provision, IGS has further enhanced its reputation as one of the leading comprehensive schools in the north of England. Data released to the school this week further reinforces this with GCSE progress in the top 14% of all schools nationally, including selective grammar schools, and attainment in the top 12% of schools in the country. IGS is also one of a minority of schools to have successfully retained Outstanding judgements in all areas under the new, more rigorous Ofsted framework.

As we proudly celebrate this achievement, I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone who plays a part in making IGS such an exceptional school. This includes you as parents and carers whose continued support, shared commitment to education, and positive collaboration with the school really does make a positive difference.

Although the report identified no areas for development, please be assured that we are committed to building on this success, enhancing our provision further, and addressing ongoing challenges such as funding and SEND, which reflect broader national issues.

Kind regards,
Carly Purnell
Headteacher



IGS OUTSTANDING!



Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Headteacher Award over the last fortnight: Sophie Love 7RF; Dylan Warboys 8IGD; Samuel Renshaw 9JNB; Daniel Sluman 10EAL; Freddie Mitchell 10NRP; Frankie Flaherty 11CSJ; Yusuf Ali 12IJH; Eden Adams 7KL; Bella Buckley 8IGD; Ali Awan 9SP; Florence Selvon 9PDH; Charlie Deacon 10CLL; Sam Bryson 11JPM; Jasper Russell 12GND; Hassan Miah 12MO

Students have received the award for demonstrating school values, being positive role models and making a positive difference to others in line with our school vision.



PRIDE



RESPECT



COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



KINDNESS



RESILIENCE

Congratulations to the Year 13 students who took part in this year's British Physics Olympiad Round 1 Competition

I would like to give a special mention to Samuel Brooks, Caden Murphy, and Keiran Slowinski, who all achieved Gold certificates. In addition, Keiran achieved highly enough to be eligible to enter round 2 of the competition in February, which is the next stage for selecting the team for the International Olympiad. Good luck Keiran!

IGS P-16 Taster Day 2025

Following on from our excellent summer results, where IGS was ranked in the top 12% nationally for attainment and top 25% for progress at A level, and our December 2024 Ofsted Outstanding in all areas judgement, where Post 16 was described as a 'Shining light' in our 'amazing' school, we invited in 470 of our applicants for next year's Post 16. This was our biggest taster day event yet and our applications are now surging with over 550 applications for places in September. We offered 130 sessions in one day from our extensive 40 subject curriculum and students really enjoyed the buzz of meeting the other applicants and sampling 5 subjects. Students got the chance to sample our food, explore the post -16 spaces and find out about the choices they need to make for next year. Our applications close on 4th February and we will interview all our applicants between the 12th and 14th February 2025.

Charities Week 2024

During the last week of Term 1, students showed great kindness and pride organising events to raise money for charities. Not only did they build essential leadership skills and project management, they also managed to raise an amazing **£6742.21**. The students voted for the charities they wanted to support, and the money will be split between the **RSPCA, Dementia UK and British Heart Foundation**.

It was brilliant to see students really push their comfort zones by practising their public speaking skills for a good cause.

We had a range of events such as breakfast clubs, candy cane deliveries, tombolas, and food banks collections. Year 7 were very festively dressed for Christmas Jumper Day.

Students who made the most effort in planning and organising will be **receiving awards this half-term** as thanks for their hard work.

Year 12 were also part of our **annual Christmas gift giving with Ilkley Good Neighbours**. They raised money at Tesco for the gifts, attended parties in local homes and visited residents to deliver presents. They were highly praised and were a real credit to the school.

Well done to all students who were involved! I am excited to see your efforts in our further events throughout the year. **Ms Booth**



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Sport Updates



IGS Year 7 A & B teams pictured above are both doing well in their respective competitions!

Recent results:

- 🏆 A Team vs Abbey Grange 1-1 draw
- 🏆 A Team vs Guiseley 2-1 win
- 🏆 B Team vs St Aidan's 3-1 win
- 🏆 B Team vs Horizon Community College 4-0 win

Well done to our year 7 Wednesday Club boys pictured below who played extremely well in a friendly tournament vs Prince Henry's Grammar School.



Bradford Schools Cross Country Qualifications

Charlotte	Braham-Smith	Thomas	Jebb
Max	Brett	Isaac	Keith
Robert	Brooks	James	Lee
Archie	Budding	Sophie	Leijssen
Harriet	Carter	Milena	Morgan
Robert	Carter	Jake	Norris
Helena	Coy	Charlotte	Pedley
Heather	Crolla	Charlie	Porteous
Adam	Disney	Jessica	Rhea
Seb	Ford	Oscar	Shinn
Alice	Gardner	Ben	Stacey
Mary	Goodyear	Nick	Ward
Thomas	Greenwood	George	Whittlestone
Tyler	Griffiths	Alex	Wolfenden
Matilda	Irvine		

IGS cross country team took nearly 40 runners to Northcliffe Park on Wednesday 15th January to compete in the Bradford schools district cross country qualifiers. There were 15 places up for grabs in each age category to represent the district in the next stage at the West Yorkshire cross country meet at Leeds Grammar School on Saturday 1st February! There was a sea of purple vests in many races, each student showing incredible determination and resilience in the heavy ground conditions following the snow melt.

29 students qualified to represent the district in the next round, a super effort! Well done to the listed students!





Ermysted's Cross-Country Friendly: Monday 20th January 2025

A squad of 21 IGS cross country runners took to the paths and fields surrounding Aireville Park, Skipton for the annual Ermysted's school fixture. Spirits were high after registering 29 IGS student qualifications for the Bradford school's cross country the previous week. Everyone ran hard, we had a mix of seasoned club runners, uber committed students and first-time racers, all demonstrating pride in IGS. Some top 10 place individual results and team results are below.

Y7 Boys' / Y7+8 Girls' race	Y8/9 Boys'/Y9/10 Girls' race	Y10/11 Boys' race	Y12/13 Senior Boys'
Harriet Carter 1 st Y7 Girl, 6 th overall Thomas Greenwood 7 th Y7 Boy, 8 th overall Max Kendall 10 th overall	Charlie Porteous 1 st overall Robert Carter 2 nd overall Thomas Jebb 9 th overall Heather Crolla 4 th Y9/10 Girl, 39 th overall	Jake Norris 1 st overall Harry Leijssen 10 th overall	George Whittlestone 4 th overall

In addition to some of our top 10 finishers and our individual placers gaining a medal position, we finished 2nd in Y7 and 2nd in the Y8 category! The top four scoring runners counted. Well done team IGS!



Fancy your chances at the



QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT



Friday 21st^h March 2024

Ilkley Grammar School "B Hall"

Bar opens 7pm. Quiz starts 7:30pm



ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

Includes supper:-
meat or veggie
curry AND dessert.

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TICKETS £15 per person

Come as a team OR join a table on the night.

Link also on IGS PTA webpage & IGS PTA
facebook page. **CLICK TO BUY TICKETS:-**

[BUY TICKETS](#)

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