



Dear Parents,

As you will be aware from my letter at the start of the academic year, results here at Bluecoat Wollaton from the summer were exceptional; a continued trend upward over the last three years and a move into the top 10% of schools in the country should have left us in a position to celebrate publically in October when the tables were released with provisional data.

However, you may have noticed that our results have not been included for the city under a 'technical' point which we have been arguing with the Department for Education (DfE).

To summarise the central measures in the tables for you:

- Under the main measure for comparing schools we have actually achieved a figure of 0.5. This makes us the highest performing school in the city.
- The DfE also uses a four point scale for measuring this in which our 0.5 figure would have been graded as 'Well above average', a band which no other school in the city managed to achieve.
- In addition to this, the figure for students achieving a 'good pass' (Grade 5 or above) in English and Maths was 56% at Wollaton which again would have placed us as the highest performing school in the city.

We are very upset not to be included. The rationale from the DfE is that schools had to be listed as an academy by the 12th September 2017 but Wollaton didn't officially become an academy until the 1st October 2017. Whilst we understand that there is always a cut-off date, the two dates to convert prior to this (July 2017 and September 2017) were not achieved because the DfE did not manage to convert our church/faith status as part of the move and we would not convert without holding on to that as you would expect. We feel that we are therefore being unfairly punished for the Department's error through no fault of our own. We also wanted to make you aware of the position that we are in and, moreover, to reassure you that the school will continue to strive to replicate the brilliant outcomes from last year as we move forward.

Ironically, our data is eligible to be used by the Local Authority in the tables to benchmark their performance and I am pleased to see that the LA looks to have improved its own standings for improving the education and life chances of the children of Nottingham. At present Bluecoat Wollaton do not look likely to be included in the tables in January when they are updated as our requests and appeals are not being listened to, should this change I will of course let you know.

Finally, should you wish to see more about our performance last year then you can find this on our website under the 'Our Academy' tab.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Anderson, Principal

