



February 2016

Ref: SCu

Dear Parent/Carer,

On the 29th and 30th April 2015, Tong High School was inspected by OFSTED - the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills. This visit gave us a valuable external perspective. Although the majority of areas remained 'requires improvement', overall the inspection judged the school to be in the category of 'Serious Weaknesses' due to achievement.

As you are aware, Tong High School is on a journey to improve and achieve its core purpose which is to maximise the potential of every learner and provide them with the skills, qualifications qualities and opportunities needed to succeed in an ever-changing world.

In October 2015, we announced that we would be working with multi-academy trust, Tauheedul Education Trust (TET). It is DFE policy that any school which is in the Ofsted category of Serious Weakness or Special Measures becomes an Academy and work with an Academy Trust as a Sponsor. The exciting partnership with TET, as part of its non-faith division, means that Tong High School will benefit from a national network of support and development opportunities, as we continue to improve educational standards.

Following the OFSTED judgement, the school received a further short inspection (a Section 8 re-inspection) on 12th January 2016. The report following this visit is set to be published by OFSTED on Monday 1st February. This report will be published on ofsted.gov.uk and then on our website www.tongschool.co.uk from Tuesday 2nd February.

Since January, our partners from TET have been in school adding capacity to assist us in our work to improve and continue to focus on our key areas for development these are clearly reflected in the four school key priorities;

1. Raising achievement urgently through effective data driven planning
2. Improving core skills – particularly literacy
3. Embedding the 'Tong Responsible Learner' strategy
4. Leaders to tackle inconsistencies swiftly.

Together, we will continue to improve and take effective action to continue to identify any emerging weaknesses and inconsistencies and swiftly address these. Our school key priorities will be the focus of a new streamlined school improvement plan.

I can assure you that we are doing everything we can to ensure the best outcomes for our students.

TET has acknowledged the school's positive learning culture and will work in partnership with the whole community to add capacity so that Tong can improve student outcomes quickly in order to achieve academic excellence.

Partnering with TET, we are about to enter a period of stability and we look forward to working with you to ensure that the school moves forward for the benefit of all our students.

If you have any specific queries please contact your child's Assistant Head Teacher, Student Progress Leader or Deputy Student Progress Leader.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards,

S Curran

Mr. S. Curran, Head teacher