

EDUCATIONAL QUALITY INSPECTION

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL

MARCH 2017

SCHOOL'S DETAILS

March

INSPECTION EVIDENCE

The inspectors observed lessons, conducted formal interviews with pupils and examined samples of pupils' work. They held discussions with members of staff and with the chair of governors, observed a sample of the extra-curricular activities that occurred during the inspection period, and attended tutorials and assemblies. Inspectors visited the boarding house, together with the learning support and educational

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|------|
| 1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION | 1 |
| About the school | 1 |
| What the school seeks to do | 1 |
| About the pupils | 1 |
| Recommendations from previous inspections | 3 |
| 2 KEY FINDINGS | 4 |
| Recommendation | 4 |
| 3 THE QUALITY OF THE PUPILS' ACADEMIC AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS | 5 |
| 4 THE QUALITY OF THE PUPILS' PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT | 8 |

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

About the school

- 1.1 St Paul's School is an independent day and boarding school for boys aged between 7 and 18 years. Boys up to the age of 13 are educated at St Paul's Juniors, which was Colet Court and shares the same site. A small number of boys attend as boarders and have their own purpose-built accommodation. The school was founded in the twelfth century as the choir school to St Paul's Cathedral, and re-founded in 1509 on humanist principles. It is a limited company with charitable status, governed by a board of trustees.
- 1.2 In 1968 the school moved to the London borough of Richmond, and it now stands on a 46-acre site on the south bank of the River Thames. A phased development programme is currently ongoing; new science laboratories have opened since the previous inspection and more reconstruction is planned to include a dining hall and further classrooms. In 2016, a new head of the junior school was appointed. At the same time the junior and senior schools were brought closer together; the transfer examination between the schools has been discontinued.

What the school seeks to do

- 1.3 The school aims to provide an outstanding intellectual, spiritual and physical education to all academically eligible boys. It seeks to foster scholarship through inspirational and responsive teaching, and to promote independence, respect, tolerance, kindness and service. The school also endeavours to build links with the local community, including through voluntary service.

About the pupils

- 1.4 Pupils come from a cultur

St Paul's School (Educational Quality Inspection)

Recommendations from previous inspections

1.6 The previous full inspection of the senior

2. KEY FINDINGS

2.1 The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent.

Pupils excel in their academic and intellectual development, and achieve exceptional standards in

3. THE QUALITY OF PUPILS' ACADEMIC AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- 3.1 The quality of pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent.
- 3.2 Pupils excel in their academic and intellectual development, and achieve exceptional standards in public examinations, sport, and performing arts. The development of their knowledge, skills and understanding is excellent. Pupils relish the chance to range beyond the confines of the examination requirements. In doing so they broaden the base of their knowledge, develop

- 3.9 Pupils benefit from a carefully planned programme of academic enrichment activities. The whole of Year 7 decamps to the Lake District under the auspices of the geography and science departments each year. They extend and enrich their knowledge, skills and understanding through a range of practical tasks and activities, some related to their academic curriculum. Pupils in the junior school relish the challenge of publishing a magazine, which is done by them alone. They develop skills and confidence in writing, art work and printing. Junior school pupils also seize the opportunity to excel in a range of diverse activities from pre-season cricket nets to national geography competitions. The programme is imaginative and stimulating. It is matched carefully by the school to the pupils' interests and abilities, and it changes frequently in consequence. Much of the success of the school's extra-curricular programme reflects the ambitious vision of the school's leadership and governors. They have high expectations, challenge pupils continuously and monitor standards effectively.

4. THE QUALITY OF THE PUPILS' PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 4.1 The quality of the pupils' personal development is excellent.
- 4.2 Pupils are confident and demonstrate outstanding self-reliance and self-esteem, displaying an approach to life that sees no barriers to success. They display the capacity to be self-critical, identifying and reflecting on their own shortcomings and considering how to overcome them. The pupils behave in ways which demonstrate significant benefit from experiences such as a weekend camp held at the start of Year 9 which focuses on team building and developing their autonomy. They take advantage of the opportunity to create new friendships, as around half of new entrants to the senior school come from outside the school. Pupils were frequently observed in lessons to have sufficient confidence to venture comment, or to question when they are unsure of their ground. In interview, pupils were certain that the prevailing culture in their classes ensure that their words are heard and evaluated by others. Members of the school are fair in allowing others to have their say. They consider an argument on its merit and

4.6 Pupils feel that