

Since the Ofsted report and Q&A document was shared with parents last week we have had dozens of supportive messages from parents and I wanted to share some of these.

The support of so many parents has been truly wonderful and has been hugely appreciated by staff at the school. Although we would not have wished to get a negative report from Ofsted, that fact it has prompted such warm messages from parents has provided all the staff with a welcome morale boost.

Thank you for taking the time to write to us – it is very much appreciated. Here are some edited excerpts from the messages – though for data protection reasons we have removed names.

Nick Law

Headteacher

*“My son is utterly happy at Carre’s and completely settled. I, like many serving Forces parents, have chosen to suck up the weekly commute to London so he can stay at school – my current tour at Waddington ends shortly and I will commute again so my son can go to 6th Form.”*

*“...as parents I just wanted to encourage you ALL that we are happy with the school and massively appreciate all the work you do. We appreciate the hours of planning, marking and all the 'going the extra mile' your staff do to give our young people the best possible experience of school.”*

*“I was very shocked to see the report from Ofsted and I would just like to say I have no issues about the safety and teaching of my son at Carre’s. I would have no problem recommending Carre’s to any prospective students and parents.”*

*“I just want to express my support and solidarity, as I know the vast majority of parents will, to you and your staff team. It is a preposterous and an entirely inappropriate judgement on an excellent school. I have every confidence that you and your team will remedy the procedural issues in quick time.”*

*“Like you, I am disappointed at Ofsted’s verdict of the school. I would like to express how impressed I have been with our son’s start at Carre’s and have nothing but praise for the school.”*

*“We write to express our dismay that you are having to deal with this very upsetting situation which, in our opinion, does not reflect the school as a whole in any way. My husband and I have always been extremely pleased with everything that Carre’s has offered our son over the last four years of his education, two of which were during the extreme difficulties of the COVID 19 pandemic.”*

*"We have two sons at your school....Both have received an excellent education and have flourished in a positive environment, thanks to the hard work and dedication of your teaching staff. I would like to express my deepest gratitude for this and reassure that most parents whose sons attend Carre's will view the report with the incredulity it deserves."*

"As a parent, I have found the teachers and education, admin staff and student support to be of a very high standard and I have no reservations when recommending the school to other parents. I wish you well for the future and thank you for everything you and your staff do to make Carre's such a great school."

*"We are so happy with the standard of education that our son receives at Carre's, not once have I had cause for concern with regards to the safety of my child or his older brother Josh. The communication from school is clear and during lockdown was supportive."*

"I just wanted to share my shock at reading your school has got rated as inadequate! And wanted to show my support to you, your school and your amazing staff who must be feeling the effects of this report. I am gobsmacked to say the least and feel I am in a rightful position to say how fabulous we have found your school to be over the years. Our son is now in his first week at University studying Maths and Statistics - and my husband and I both know if it wasn't for your school this may not have been the case. We also still have a son in current Year 10 and the support we have had throughout his whole school life at Carre's is amazing."

*"Our son has always enjoyed coming to Carre's. He is encouraged to be the best that he can be & we are very grateful to the whole Carre's team for making his education experience a positive one. This praise extends from the leadership, teaching staff, admin & beyond! Carre's has & will I am sure continue to provide a fantastic foundation for those who pass through its doors for many years to come & that is more important than the opinion of Ofsted inspectors who only have a snap shot of what it is like to be a student at the school."*

"I am very saddened to hear about the outcome of your recent Ofsted inspection. I just wanted to let you know that our family in no way believe this is a true reflection of the school and we fully support and appreciate everything that all the staff do to deliver teaching and meaningful experiences to all pupils."

*"I can just imagine the disappointment that the results would have meant to you and your team. I realize that my son does not have any additional needs requirement, but I just wanted to let you and your team know that my son loves being at Carre's and both my wife and I have complete confidence that he is receiving an excellent education that will set him up for life."*

"I too am disappointed with the grading and wanted to say how grateful I am to all the staff at Carre's for their tireless support, dedication and teaching. Both my boys have flourished at the school and have been given opportunities both at school and for their future. Thank you and this snapshot is not a true reflection of your wonderful school."

*"Whilst our daughter has not been at the school long, I have had nothing but praise spoken by her about the school and it's teachers. I really hope you don't feel that the parents or guardians of you pupils will hold you or your staff in any lower regard due to this outcome, indeed, I hope that the majority of us stand by you and the Carre's school to show that we support you."*

"I am entirely happy with the learning experience my son and daughter have received at your school. It is laughable that Ofsted has demerited this school."

*"We are only early into our journey with Carre's'. My son has had a fantastic start to Year 7, he is excited and enthusiastic about his lessons, school and education again and it has been a delight to watch him overcome his first day nerves and anxiety over his friends all going to a different school. He loves that he is recognised for working hard in lessons, that this is openly encouraged and that the curriculum is engaging and supportive. No OFSTED report will ever pick up and capture the real feel of a school and the feedback from my son, tells me that the school is far more than its inadequate rating."*

"As a teacher, I can only sympathise with you and your staff for the ridiculous outcome of this inspection. The unnecessary grief and distress they cause, when they have seen only a snapshot, is quite frankly insulting! I sincerely hope that this process has not been detrimental to the mental health of you and your staff. My son has absolutely flourished at Carre's. We couldn't be happier with every step of his education with you. We would chose Carre's again and again."

*"I was very surprised to read the findings and do not agree with them at all. I just wanted to say how happy and supported my son has been at Carre's and to thank you and all the team for your ongoing hard work."*

"Don't worry I don't have any respect for Ofsted. You are a good school and we have been very happy. This sort of pressure is disgraceful. It's the pupils and parents that count and the school results."

*"I would like to extend my thanks to you and all of your staff for the environment you continue to create. My son has just started 6th form. He has loved his time at school and I know that isn't easily achieved! I have always been impressed when he has talked to many of the things you do there, including pastoral care and your efforts to create empathetic, self aware and 'well-rounded' young*

*men. I wouldn't have any hesitation in recommending Carre's to those who are at the stage of considering their options."*

*"I understand how damaging an inadequate report is for both the school and staff morale. All I would like to say is that my son is very happy at Carre's and wanted to stay on at 6th form. It's so frustrating and annoying when external people come in to your environment and nit pick and slate without fully understanding the whole picture. I really feel for you all as it's hard to explain all the positives that really do go on behind the scenes as they are a normal part of life at Carre's. I as a parent have no issues with the school at all and feel so saddened that a few people coming in for a short time can exert such power."*

*"From my perspective as a parent of a Year 9 pupil with additional needs who has been let down by delays in the NHS over covid I have nothing but praise for the support and care he has received at Carre's. Results are of course important but having parented my son through the pandemic I am far more interested in the nurturing environment which has clearly provided for my son. I understand how disappointing this must be for the staff, and how demoralising this could be. I just wanted to offer a counter to this from a parent who is very grateful for all you have done for my son."*

*"My son enjoys coming to school and I have no doubt that this is down to the nurturing environment he finds himself in; day in, day out. His thirst for learning is down to the wonderful staff and their ability to create exciting and engaging lessons."*

*"As a family, we wouldn't choose to send him anywhere else. Thank you for everything you do... it's not all about Ofsted... it's about the children you all care so much about"*