

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8th October 2019

Fowey River Academy Welcomes Ofsted Report

Fowey River Academy (FRA) welcomed Ofsted in September at a crucial moment in the school's improvement journey. Following sustained development and the new opportunities of joining the Leading Edge Trust, inspectors have commented positively on progress in all areas. They noted improved curriculum choice, improved behaviour and improved leadership capacity. Inspectors were also able to endorse the future plans for the academy's improvement journey.

"School leaders are unstinting in their work to improve all aspects of the school's work. Since the school formally joined Leading Edge, even more rapid improvement can be seen"

The report highlighted personal development as "good" which reflects how, as a small school, we are able to know and care for the students as individuals.

There is, however, still much for us to do and, overall, we feel that the grade of "requires improvement" is a fair one,

Whilst recognising the improvements made and the trajectory that the school is on, OFSTED identified some areas for improvement which the leadership team is already working hard to address.

- **Connecting learning** - this is the second year that we have actively promoted making connections between curriculum areas through the Lower School. We are developing project-based learning through REAL projects which see our students study a given subject through the lenses of History, Geography, Oracy and Art.
- **Embedding a love of reading** - this is a nation-wide issue which all schools are being asked to consider. At FRA we have created a reading room and are introducing Accelerated Reader, a renowned program to promote and improve reading skills.
- **Better translating learning for children with Special Needs and Disabilities (SEND) into classroom practice** - an issue which we have been addressing through employing the expertise of a SEND consultant and an ongoing training focus for all staff.
- **Attendance** - we need to work more closely with our community to ensure our students are in school as much as possible. Staff are available to work with families to help support this.

Sara Davey, CEO of LEAP said, "We are committed to work with our whole community to build on the school's strengths and improve it further. We know there's work to be done but we would like to reassure parents and students that the academy and Leading Edge have the best interests of the Fowey community at heart

and will do everything we can to work in partnership and ensure FRA becomes a great place for young people to come to school.”

“We are proud that OFSTED recognised our determination to make a difference to our students and their families and we are confident that our plans will take the school onwards and upwards.” Martin Dale, Headteacher

“Trustees, local governors and school leaders clearly have the needs of pupils and their families at their heart.”