

Monday 23rd June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Ofsted Inspection Report of Northumberland PRU, May 2025

I am pleased and proud to be able to share with you the outcome from our recent Ofsted inspection, which took place last month on the 13th and 14th of May 2025.

As you know, this is the first inspection that we have had since Northumberland PRU relocated to a new site and doubled in size to enable key stage 4 learners to attend alongside students in Year's 7-9, so this is a significant milestone for us as a school.

The report praised the **“very high expectations of pupils’ behaviour. Pupils rise to meet these. They actively contribute to the open and respectful culture that exists throughout.”**

It goes to state that **“Teachers have immensely positive relationships with pupils and praise them regularly for their efforts. The school has put in place an ambitious curriculum for all.”**

In reference to our school culture it is clear that **“The school uses a ‘4 Rs’ (Respect, Responsibility Resilience and Rewards) structure to develop pupils’ understanding of positive behaviour. Through this, staff help pupils understand the value of their own positive actions.”**

And it states, **“Reading is central to the pupils’ experience in school. Leaders have rightly prioritised this and it forms a crucial part of daily lessons for pupils of all ages. Teachers deliver this well to help pupils secure new knowledge and enrich their understanding of the world. Pupils engage with a range of literature and develop their love of reading.”**

The report covers how well we know our students and families, saying **“The school has clear transition processes to help pupils both enter and leave this short- stay setting well. The school ensures that it understands as much as possible about the pupils before they start. Pupils’ needs and starting points are carefully assessed.”**

In relation to student next steps, the report says **“The school has strong connections with wider agencies used to help pupils. Pupils are encouraged to think about their future. They have opportunities to consider a full range of possible post-16 options through visits to local colleges and employers.”**

In terms of the management of Northumberland PRU the report indicates that **“Senior leaders and members of the management committee are accurate in their view of the school. They recognise the challenges of working in this complex environment and are consistently focused on the pupils receiving the best provision.”**

Perhaps most importantly, the report confirmed that this is a place where **“Pupils grow and feel safe in this welcoming school. Staff strive and succeed in putting pupils back on the path to engaging with education.”**

Overall Outcome- The overall outcome of the inspection is that Northumberland PRU has continued to maintain its high standards since the previous inspection:

Overall Effectiveness	Good
Quality of Education	Good
Behaviour and Attitudes	Good
Personal Development	Good
Leadership and Management	Good

We are very pleased that so many aspects of our school have been judged so strongly and that the overall effectiveness of the school has been judged as Good.

You can read the full report here by clicking on this link and also on the Northumberland PRU website: <http://www.pru.northumberland.sch.uk/website/ofsted/120319>

Although Ofsted outcomes do not drive us here at Northumberland PRU, it is very pleasing that the report has highlighted so many aspects of the school that we can be proud of and have worked so hard on over the past five years. There was just one small area for improvement identified which is in relation to phonics in Year 7 and Year 8 which we are currently addressing in order to improve even further.

I would also like to thank you as parents and carers for your comments in the Parent View survey- it was appreciated to be reminded of the strength of our partnership and how supportive you are of Northumberland PRU.

Although there are lots of positives to be taken, both from the report and the inspection process itself, we are ambitious to continue to improve. With your continued support and encouragement, we know that working together that we can do this.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Carr
Headteacher