

Summary for children and young people

Name: Felixstowe International College

URN: SC024579

Date of inspection: 29 November 2016

Dear children and young people

As most of you know Natalie and I came to inspect your school recently. We spent two and a half days at the school and shared several meals and an evening with you. Firstly, can I say thank you so much for making us feel so welcome and for providing us with beautiful music and dance. We really enjoyed this and can see how talented you are. The way that you work together to produce such a professional and enjoyable performance is very impressive. You also look after one another very well. The atmosphere in the school and Maybush house is one of tolerance, kindness and fun. We thought that this was a credit to all of you.

We have judged your boarding provision to Require Improvement. While we can see that staff have worked hard to improve many aspects of the boarding house there remains work to do. This is in particular regard to ensuring that your rooms are heated consistently and that damaged windows are repaired.

The system used to register you into the boarding house is not effective as there is a time when the staff are not sure how many of you are there. We have asked the staff to provide better records of how they manage concerns in the school and to update the risk assessments to ensure that when you walk to school you know what to do in bad weather and that you wear your high visibility coats. We have asked the school to check new staff thoroughly to make sure that they are suitable to work with you.

Although there are a number of improvements that are needed the school has made some big changes in moving to the Deben site and arranging the new accommodation. Before the new accommodation is used we will come out to visit and ensure that it meets the health and safety requirements. We can see how the school want to expand and improve and this has resulted in a very busy time for Mr Andy and Ms Chaerin.

We noted that you treat one another, Ms Jean, Ms Joyce and Pastor Lee with great respect. This adds to the lovely atmosphere in Maybush House. Breakfast was relaxed and orderly and you all go about your day in a quiet and focused manner with a strong emphasis on your studies.

Your parents have provided some lovely feedback about the school. Overall, given that you are all learning English as a second language and a long way from home, we were very impressed with the way that you manage your lives at boarding school.

It was lovely to meet you all.

Kind regards

Deirdra and Natalie