



# Hawkesdown House School

Endeavour • Courage • Truth

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Headmistress:  
Mrs. J. A. K. Mackay, B.Ed Oxford

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents,

## **Regulatory Compliance Inspection – November 2017**

In November, Hawkesdown House School had the Regulatory Compliance Inspection by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI). This inspection seeks to ensure that our School complies with all of the regulations laid out in the inspection handbook and this is reported back to the Department of Education (DfE). There are close to 100 pages of regulations which must be observed, from curriculum to health and safety, recruitment to governance, safeguarding and provision of information.

Unlike previous inspections, the inspectors were not at Hawkesdown to reach a judgement about the quality of the education provision or management, and so the report contains no qualitative judgements – the inspectors were not allowed to use words such as excellent or outstanding (any references to the word ‘good’ are standard wording). Instead, they simply decide whether we comply with the raft of legislation that applies to all independent schools. The only judgements made in this type of inspection are ‘compliant’ or ‘non-compliant’.

You will see from the report that in each of the areas, following a brief narrative, we are told that Hawkesdown House School has ‘met’ the standards, so we complied with every element and that there were no recommendations for the school to do anything differently. As unexciting as this may appear, it is the highest possible achievement under this current inspection framework and is a huge accolade.

The two inspectors felt extremely welcome during their time with us, in and out of the classroom. They commented that at the heart of everything at Hawkesdown House, the boys come first because we care deeply for them, and that the child’s voice is truly recognised. There is total focus on the child and this was obvious in all that they saw and this was seen to be embedded throughout the school, from boys through to staff and on to Governance.

I am enormously grateful to all the staff at Hawkesdown House School for the consistently high standards they set, to the children for the part they played in making this such a successful inspection and to you, the parents, for completing the questionnaires and affirming that we are a happy, healthy and successful school.

With very best wishes,

Jenny Mackay  
Headmistress