



OFSTED INSPECTION

OCTOBER 2023

www.bolton-sfc.ac.uk



“

A safe, secure environment where students develop their confidence and resilience to help them achieve and progress.

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Staff and students at The Sixth Form Bolton are delighted to once again be recognised as a Good college following a recent Ofsted inspection.

THE HEADLINES

We were inspected by Ofsted from: 17th October to 20th October 2023.

Overall effectiveness **GOOD**

The quality of education **GOOD**

Behaviour and attitudes **GOOD**

Personal development **GOOD**

Leadership and management **GOOD**

Education programmes for young people **GOOD**

Provision for learners with high needs **GOOD**

GOOD

The Ofsted report commended the many positive practices that are taking place across all aspects of The Sixth Form.

To view the full Ofsted report, please visit <https://www.bolton-sfc.ac.uk/about-us/ofsted/>



OUR COLLEGE

What Ofsted said about us...

“

Leaders and teachers create a calm working environment for students and apply college rules consistently.

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Teachers, support staff and security liaison officers are highly visible around the campus and know students very well.

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Leaders create a safe, secure environment.

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Students feel safe and well supported.

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OUR STUDENTS

What Ofsted said about us...

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Students are positive about their learning and what college life offers them.

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Students are ambitious and have clear aspirations for their future.

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Students understand the importance of their studies in helping them to progress to the next stage of their lives.

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Students develop their confidence and resilience to help them achieve and progress in their studies.

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Students achieve well on most courses and their results are above national rates.

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Most students who complete their courses progress to university. Many are proud that they are the first in their families to access higher education.

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OUR TEACHING

What Ofsted said about us...

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Teachers create learning environments where errors and misconceptions are openly discussed.

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Teachers design the course well to develop students skills of source analysis, academic writing and evaluative skills.

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Teachers are well qualified. Over a third work as external examiners and they use this experience to raise students aspirations.

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Students benefit from effective teaching strategies including low stakes quizzes, debates and regular recap and consolidation throughout lessons to ensure they understand key concepts.

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Teachers use practical role play and verbal delivery to develop students understanding of key concepts.

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OUR SUPPORT

What Ofsted said about us...

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Students access support from student be kind ambassadors, mental health first aiders and trained counsellors and can gain immediate support via a wellbeing hub that students have fondly named The Cocoon. This helps students to make progress towards their goals.

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Leaders support students with high needs very effectively. They take into account the individualised strategies students need to make a successful transition from school. Students feel less anxious and have a readiness to learn when they start college.

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Students value the guidance they receive about maintaining their positive mental health.

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The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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OUR LEADERSHIP

What Ofsted said about us...

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Leaders provide a diverse range of academic and vocational courses to prepare students for university, apprenticeships or employment. They place a strong emphasis on developing students English, mathematical and digital skills.

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Leaders initiatives such as Women into Leadership and Women into Digital Technologies help female students to understand the opportunities available to them in sectors that they might not otherwise have considered.

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Leaders have a clear vision to provide education that supports students to reach their potential. They support teachers to develop their teaching practice.

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Leaders have a beneficial working relationship with a multi-national software company. They have secured an agreement with them to provide professional digital qualifications in a suite of applications to improve students digital skills.

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Leaders work effectively with a range of stakeholders to meet many of the skills priorities for the Greater Manchester region.

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OUR CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

What Ofsted said about us...

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Students have access to meaningful work-related opportunities that extend their learning beyond the curriculum.

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Students receive effective impartial careers advice and guidance.

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Leaders have designed a professional growth pathways programme to prepare students for their careers.

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Leaders work closely with organisations to provide highly competitive work placements for their students.

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Progress coaches and careers staff support students well with employment, university and apprenticeship applications.

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