



Rt Hon David Laws MP
Minister of State for Schools

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Mr Gibson
The Holy Cross School
25 Sandal Road
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22 January 2014

THE HOLY CROSS SCHOOL: YOUR EXCELLENT PROGRESS FOR DISADVANTAGED PUPILS

Dear Mr Gibson,

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on the excellent performance of your pupils, particularly your disadvantaged pupils, in the 2013 national key stage 4 tests as published on 23 January 2014.

Your results show that you are amongst the 108 top performing schools in terms of the progress of pupil premium pupils.

It is clear that you and your staff have provided your disadvantaged young people with a good start in adult life and a strong springboard into the next stage of their education, and the world of work.

With the pupil premium rising to £935 from April 2014, I believe that secondary schools will have the additional resources needed to continue to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the attainment gap with their peers. This is critical to breaking the link between poverty and education outcomes, which is a brake on aspiration and future life chances.

We also need excellent school leaders, who have improved outcomes for their disadvantaged pupils in particular, to support other schools. You may, of course, be doing this already but if you would like to know more about how you can get involved, please email our Pupil Premium Champion, Dr John Dunford, at pupilpremium.champion@education.gsi.gov.uk.

I would like to congratulate your staff, governors and pupils for their hard work and success, and thank you for your leadership in continuing the drive towards high standards of educational achievement.

Yours sincerely,

David Laws MP