



**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards

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Mr John Wood  
Headteacher  
St Aidan's Church of England High School  
Oatlands Drive  
Harrogate  
HG2 8JR

29 March 2019

Dear Mr Wood

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and pupils on the outstanding progress your pupils are making and your school's high level of EBacc entry in 2018.

Your school's Progress 8 score of 0.79 which is well above the national average, shows that you are amongst the top 5 per cent of state-funded mainstream schools in terms of the progress your pupils make between key stage 2 and the end of key stage 4.

With 75 per cent of your pupils entering the EBacc in 2018, your school is in the top 11 per cent of all state-funded mainstream secondary schools in the country. EBacc subjects provide a sound basis for careers beyond the age of 16 and can also enrich pupils' studies, giving them a broad general knowledge that will enable them to participate in and contribute to society.

We want to ensure that every child, regardless of their background, has the chance to study the EBacc at GCSE, which is why I was delighted to see your results.

Thank you for your work in continuing the drive towards higher academic standards, and congratulations again to you and your staff for your hard work and professionalism.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
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