

## Schools Success Stories



# Ark Boulton recognised by Ofsted regional report 2017

By **DAVID WHINYATES**  
Special Correspondent

ARK Boulton is very proud to have been recognised by Ofsted's regional director for the West Midlands, Lorna Fitzjohn, who highlighted it as a case study demonstrating an academy where rapid improvement has, and continues to occur.

After several years of poor exam results, high numbers of supply teachers, and low expectations, Ark Boulton came into being in September 2015.

The journey to date has been one in which the hearts and minds of our parents, children and staff needed to be earned, so we as leaders could then deliver on the shared vision that: "All pupils who attend Ark Boulton Academy will go onto university, or leave equipped to pursue a career or high level apprenticeship of their choice."

So as young adults they are able to:

- 1) Look after parents and families.
- 2) Be role models for younger brothers and sisters.
- 3) Upskill and give back to their communities.

Here at Ark Boulton we ultimately believe that: "It takes a whole community to bring up a child."

As a learning community we aim to grow together in understanding and cooperation, respecting each other's needs, beliefs and backgrounds, working ever more closely to fulfil individual potential for the greater good. Together with families and the local community,



Ark Boulton Academy is dedicated to helping young people to develop a lifelong love of learning, a sense of personal and civic pride and the confidence to not just navigate the modern world, but to shape it. The annual report for 2016/2017 gives a state-of-the-nation picture of the performance of early years, schools, further education and skills, and social care providers in England.

By the end of August 2017, 87 per cent of schools in the West Midlands were judged good or outstanding at their most recent inspection, compared with 89 per cent nationally. This was a one percentage point improvement for the region compared with August 2016.

Lorna Fitzjohn said: "Improvement takes time and is the result of hard work on the part of many people. So I am really pleased that the Ofsted Annual Report shows that secondary schools in the West Midlands are getting better.

"Indeed, 78 per cent of them are good or outstanding. That's an increase of three per cent on last year. This means that hundreds more young people are getting a better education than they did before."



Ark Boulton pupils celebrate their "good" rating by Ofsted

### ARK BOULTON ACADEMY'S MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

INSPECTED in May 2017 and judged to be good. It was previously judged to be inadequate.

The principal, supported very well by leaders, the local governing body and the sponsor, has successfully addressed the many long-standing and deep-rooted issues that the school has faced.

They have an uncompromising

ambition for pupils' success. As a result, Ark Boulton is a rapidly improving school.

The large majority of pupils are making good progress from their starting points because learning, teaching and assessment are good.

■ To see the full regional report visit the official Ofsted website or visit [www.arkboulton.org](http://www.arkboulton.org)

### AT A GLANCE

- Ark Boulton Academy
- Head teacher: Mrs HK Channa JP
- Address: Golden Hillock Road, Birmingham, B11 2QG
- Tel: 0121 773 8156
- Website: [www.arkboulton.org](http://www.arkboulton.org)