

## Southampton University Visit Friday March 12<sup>th</sup>

On Friday March 12<sup>th</sup> Southlands School welcomed our first cohort in recent times of PGCE students who were here for the day to learn about life in a school like Southlands. We had 5 visits who are completing PGCE's in Science, Computing, Maths and MFL. They received an introduction from myself as Head of Education where I talked to them about the history of the school and the wonderful support on offer here for YP. They were then lateral flow tested before being allowed around the site. After which they were paired up with an applicable Southlands teacher to observe lessons and spend time talking to that teacher about their subject. Following this they had lunch with myself and then a range of presentations on Autism, Behaviour Management, Sensory Processing and also the Zones of Regulation. The students then received a tour of the school site with our Senior Teacher Marion Frewin and our Occupational Therapist Louise Reid. They then had the opportunity to discuss what it is like to be a teacher at Southlands through a question and answer session organised with our Middle Leaders Group.

I asked students for feedback at the end of the day and some examples of the feedback they offered are below:

### **On a scale of 1-10 with 10 being the most useful please rate how useful the day has been for you:**

Four students rated the visit 10/10 and the other student rated it 9/10 stating 'it's been really helpful and provided a lot of insight.'

### **Please give details on the most useful part of your visit:**

'Lesson observations! It was great to see how the pupils' challenges are met and emphasised the need for flexibility'

'This has been a wonderful experience – first hand info on how to teach SEND students. The lesson obs were great especially, the autism presentations were great and the QA session. Love how the staff are so open'

### **Please give details on how we can improve future visits for PGCE students:**

'Extend the visits'

'3 day visits'

### **Would you consider working at a Specialist Provision such as Southlands School in the future?**

'Yes! The school has a great supportive atmosphere'

'Yes – I wish I had one close to me'

'This is a wonderful school and a great place to work in. Thank you very much for giving me this brilliant opportunity to visit'#

'Yes, I believe it would be an amazing and enriching opportunity'