

Gresham's School at Holt rated excellent across the board

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Independent school's inspectorate have given Gresham's School in Holt Excellent. Pictured are some of the pupils and headmaster Douglas Robb. Picture: MARK BULLIMORE

A north Norfolk independent school is celebrating being rated excellent across the board in a report from a private education watchdog.

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Historic Gresham's at Holt received the top grading this week from the Independent Schools Inspectorate.

It followed a four day visit to the nursery and pre-prep, prep and senior schools in February.

The report graded each school 'excellent' across all nine categories.

Inspectors collected evidence examining pupils' work, observing lessons and speaking with teachers, governors, parents and pupils.

They found pupils to be motivated and enthusiastic learners enabling them to excel and realise their full potential.

High quality teaching underpinned by excellent subject knowledge and considerable enthusiasm was judged to

contribute strongly to pupils' achievements.

Pastoral care was described as excellent and found to meet the school's aims of valuing the whole person and their emotional well-being.

A well-being programme for sixth-form students included a clear focus on the importance of maintaining good mental health and making the right life choices.

Senior management changes had been effective in improving educational standards, with staff praised for playing an integral role in the school's success.

The grade excellent is the ISI equivalent for an outstanding Ofsted rating.

Gresham's School headmaster, Douglas Robb said: "I am immensely proud of the Inspectorate's findings and am absolutely delighted that the nursery and pre-prep, prep and the senior school have each received an excellent rating in every one of the nine inspection categories.

"This is a tremendous achievement and one of which all our pupils, parents, staff and governors can be proud.

He added: "We have an exciting future and will continue to look for ways to grow stronger and build on our excellent achievements so that our pupils will leave Gresham's School with a first-class education and the confidence, strength of character and desire to make their mark."

Gresham's is an independent, co-educational day and boarding school for pupils aged three to 18.

The school was founded in 1555 by Sir John Gresham who went on to become Lord Mayor of London and forged close ties with the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers. Plans are in place for a new sixth form centre and music school.