

Mark celebrates school's improvement

Mark Lancaster has praised a secondary school which is the most improved in the region.

Last week the school league tables were released, revealing that The Radcliffe in Wolverton was the most improved in the south east.

The city MP was delighted to learn that, last year, 52 per cent of its pupils achieved five A*-C grades at GCSE. It is a massive increase from the 20 per cent who hit that benchmark in 2007.

Mr Lancaster, who has written to headteacher John O'Donnell to congratulate him, said: "The Radcliffe's teachers and pupils have proven the maxim that hard work really does pay off. Despite being branded 'failing' by the previous government, despite having some of the oldest facilities in the city, the Radcliffe has managed to give a sterling education to many students. I am determined to see that the school can maintain this trajectory of improvement; it really is something for our city to shout about."

The 52 per cent puts it in line with the Milton Keynes average, and just below England's average of 54 per cent.

Mr Lancaster spoke about The Radcliffe School in Parliament last month after it faced an influx of in-year admission pupils. He argued that the school should not bear the brunt of oversubscription elsewhere in the city.