

Ofsted Update

September 2014

Key Changes to Section 5 Framework

There are now just three guidance documents:

1. The School Inspection Handbook
2. The framework for school inspection
3. Inspecting safeguarding in maintained school and academies

Key Changes

The guidance for inspectors has been significantly reduced and the School inspection handbook is a 'one stop shop'. Changes include:

- Guidance and graded criteria for judging the early years and 6th Form
- Greater scrutiny on the breadth and balance of the whole curriculum
- Greater emphasis on SMSC especially in preparing pupils for life in modern Britain and understanding of how British values are taught
- Increased emphasis on assessment systems and how schools are adapting to life beyond levels
- Emphasis on how teaching promotes learning, acquisition of knowledge and raises achievement. There will no longer be a grade for individual lessons. No particular teaching style to be advocated
- An expectation that governors will be aware of current changes re curriculum, assessment SEN etc and the school's plans to implement them.

Key Changes

Inspection will:

- Use a new report format – leadership, behaviour, teaching and achievement then EYFS / 6th Form
- Include a paragraph about the ‘more able’ in the final report
- Have a greater focus upon outcomes for SEND especially in making judgements
- Focus on the performance of ‘disadvantaged pupils’
- Use of new evidence form to reflect judgements being made

- Schools judged to be good will no longer receive an interim assessment letter in the third year after their last section 5 inspection. The inspection selection policy for ‘good’ schools remains unchanged. However ‘no notice’ inspections remain a possibility

Curriculum

Inspectors should check:

- If information about what is taught in each year is available to parents.
- That curriculum information is easily accessible on the school website and if it is broad and balanced.
- Inspectors will not expect to see a particular range of subjects but should be alert to any unexplained narrowness in the breadth of curriculum being offered by the school
- If the curriculum and SMSC is planned to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain by teaching fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Curriculum

- where pupils are taught in mixed ability groups/classes, inspectors will consider whether the most able are stretched and the least able are supported sufficiently to reach their full potential
- where pupils are taught in sets, inspectors will consider how leaders ensure that pupils in lower sets are not disadvantaged or that teachers take into account that pupils within a set may still have very different needs.

Teaching

- Inspection evaluates the overall quality of teaching over time. Therefore lesson grades will not be given for individual lessons
- Whilst feedback is offered for teachers this will focus upon the strengths and weaknesses of the lesson
- Learning over time is judged through a range of teaching observed, work within books and folders, how well pupils explain their knowledge and understanding in subjects and outcomes in tests

Lessons Learned

- Website
- HMI desktops – “no notice”
- Leadership transition
- Parental complaints
- Middle leaders
- Consistency
- Governors
- All leaders confident in EYFS / 6th Form