



Is governance in your school  
ready for Ofsted?

26<sup>th</sup> January 2023



Steve Barker



Linda Waghorn



- A day to raise awareness of school governance and support governors through valuable professional development;
- Our theme is how school governance can ensure schools support children, young people and their families , impacted by the cost of living crisis
- And, **it's free!**

[www.schoolgovernorsday.co.uk](http://www.schoolgovernorsday.co.uk)

# Aims of today's session

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to explore when schools are likely to be inspected by Ofsted;



to consider how governance readiness for inspection is very much *business as usual* ;



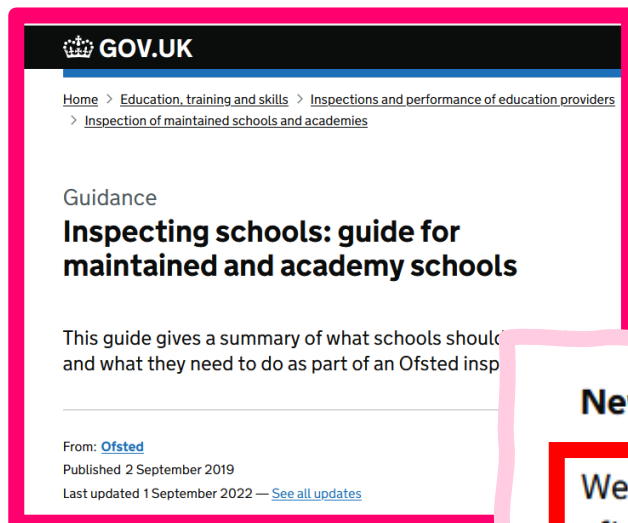
to encourage reflection on the effectiveness of governance in your school, which will be recognised by Ofsted.

# Timing of your next inspection:

## Schools judged 'good' or 'outstanding'

A school judged good or outstanding at its most recent inspection will normally receive an inspection approximately every 4 years, to confirm that the school remains good or outstanding. We call this an **ungraded inspection**, and it is carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005. We do not give graded judgements on an ungraded inspection. However, if we find some evidence that a school would now be better than it was, or that standards may be declining, we will carry out a full inspection with graded judgements. We call this a graded inspection, and it is carried out under section 5 of the Education Act. Usually this is within 1 to 2 years of the date of the ungraded inspection, but if we have serious concerns about a school, for example in relation to safeguarding, we will deem the ungraded inspection a graded inspection immediately.

# Timing of your next inspection:



GOV.UK

Home > Education, training and skills > Inspections and performance of education providers  
> Inspection of maintained schools and academies

Guidance

## Inspecting schools: guide for maintained and academy schools

This guide gives a summary of what schools should do and what they need to do as part of an Ofsted inspection.

From: [Ofsted](#)  
Published 2 September 2019  
Last updated 1 September 2022 — [See all updates](#)

## New schools

We usually inspect all new schools, including academies, in the first 3 years after they open. This normally happens in the school's third year. New schools that opened before September 2020 and that have not had their first inspection can expect to be inspected in their fourth or fifth year of operation. This is due to the suspension of routine inspection activity as a result of COVID-19.

Read [guidance on how we select new schools for inspection](#).

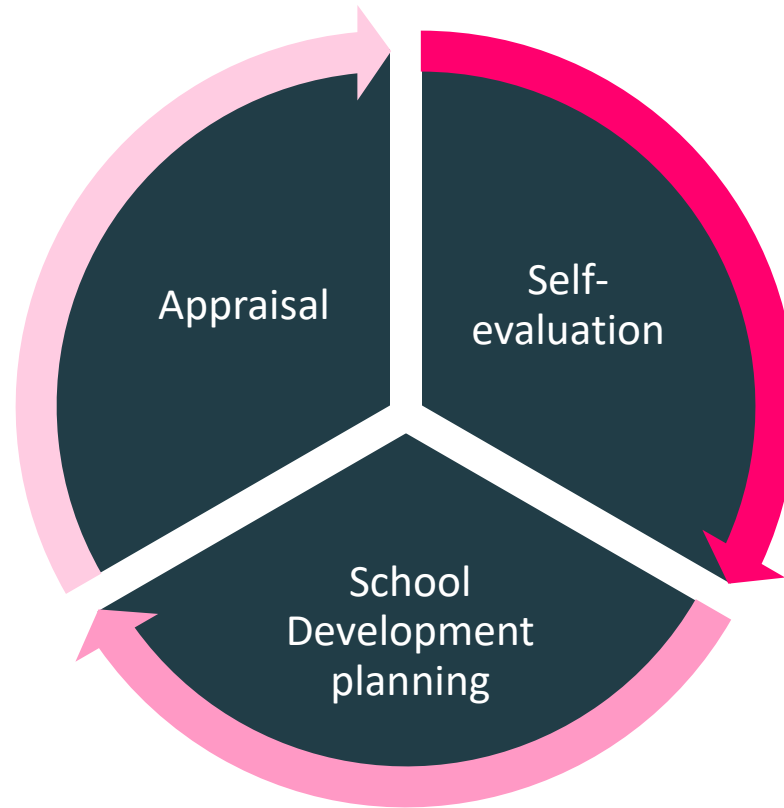


**GOVERNORS  
FOR SCHOOLS**

# Ofsted – prepare or be ready?

We don't do what we do, schools or governing bodies, because Ofsted are coming....we do what we do because we care about young people's education and welfare.

# Ofsted preparation v Effective governance:



Effective governance = ready for Ofsted



# Key guidance:



Guidance

## School inspection handbook

Updated 11 July 2022

**Applies to England**

[Contents](#)

[Introduction](#)

[Clarification for schools](#)



**This guidance came into force on 1 September 2022.**

# The Common Inspection Framework:



Plus Early Years and Sixth Form, if applicable

# Unpicking the Quality of Education:

*Inspectors will consider the school's curriculum, which is the substance of what is taught with a specific plan of what pupils need to know in total and in each subject.*

Inspectors will consider:

- the extent to which the school's curriculum sets out the knowledge and skills that pupils will gain at each stage (**intent**)
- the way that the curriculum developed or adopted by the school is taught and assessed in order to support pupils to build their knowledge and to apply that knowledge as skills (**implementation**)
- the outcomes that pupils achieve as a result of the education they have received (**impact**)

# Unpicking the Quality of Education:

## The task of governance:

Aspect	Role of Governance	Evidence drawn from:
Intent	Ensure coverage of N. Curriculum, other statutory requirements and sequencing are in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- curriculum vision/intent statement;</li><li>- curriculum map/plan;</li><li>- time allocation.</li></ul>
Implement	Ensure pupil knowledge and skills are developed through quality teaching and planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Headteacher reports;</li><li>- assessment data;</li><li>- subject leader/Head of Dept. feedback.</li></ul>
Impact	Ensure outcomes are positive and represent appropriate progress for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- assessment data (internal);</li><li>- assessment data (external);</li><li>- next phase readiness;</li><li>- destination data (16+).</li></ul>

# Deep Dives

A diver is visible in the upper center of the frame, swimming in a deep blue ocean. The water is clear, and several small fish are scattered throughout the scene. The overall atmosphere is serene and deep.

- Not a pursuit for governors!
- Governance should seek assurance that middle leaders subject knowledge is 'deep' enough
- Each inspection usually includes 3-5 deep dives
- 'Reading' is always a focus.

# Questions for governors to ask:

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- Is our curriculum broad and balanced and does it meet the needs of all pupils?
- How is it decided how much time is given to each subject?
- How does school leadership monitor that reality matches planning?
- How is assessment used by teachers to ensure pupil knowledge (inc. remembering), skills and experiences are being developed?

# Governance and Inspection?

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Ofsted expect and inspect:

- Compliance (inc. safeguarding);
- Effective governance (Core functions);
- Emphasis on holding the school to account and meeting needs of all pupils;
- *Evidence.*

# Governance Statutory Duties:

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*how well they fulfil their statutory duties, including their duties under the Equality Act and in relation to safeguarding* Ofsted Handbook

- clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- holding the school to account
- ensuring money is well sent

**Don't forget  
compliance...esp  
safeguarding**



# Questions Ofsted ask us:

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- How has your school improved since last inspection?
- What is the quality of education?
- How do governors know this is the right judgement?
- How do pupils learn about child-on-child sexual violence and harassment?
- How do you know curriculum is broad in balanced?
- How do you know safeguarding is effective?

A close-up photograph of a monkey's face, focusing on its eyes and the bridge of its nose. The monkey has dark fur with some lighter patches around its eyes. The background is dark and out of focus.

How do we know?

Establish a culture of  
**no surprises**

# No surprise culture =

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- Focus monitoring on school improvement priorities;
- Always think about impact on pupils (academic, social and developmental);
- Ensure you have a strategic overview of your curriculum, enrichment and extra curricular;
- Know what your school does well (with examples) and what it needs to improve.

# Further information

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- Ofsted Handbook

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-inspection-handbook-eif/school-inspection-handbook>

# Any questions

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Thank you