



PROJECT PROPOSAL

Supporting schools to be ‘Ofsted ready’ under the new framework for inspection

Project Leads: Recruitment and Retention Subgroup
Elizabeth Fitzpatrick

Project Timescale: January 2020 –December 2022

Target Audience: Senior Leaders

Rationale

The new Ofsted inspection framework for schools was published in May 2019 and since September 2019 has been used in all inspections in maintained schools, academies, non-association independent schools, further education and skills provision and registered early years settings in England.

A package of support already exists for Attain schools to enable them to prepare for the new Ofsted inspection framework.

Through **Merton School Improvement** there has been:

- a briefing for headteachers and senior leaders when the draft framework was published;
- input from senior HMI to headteacher meetings in the spring term; and
- ongoing shared email updates

Since publication of the final framework, a series of briefings/workshops have been planned to look at each sub-judgement; support for middle leaders in primary schools is being planned with the MSTA with materials also being finalised by MSI to support foundation subject leaders; a session on preparing for Section 8 inspections is planned for headteacher meetings in November (including a focus on 'deep dives'); a briefing has been delivered to Chairs of Governors along with further training to be delivered in the next couple of weeks; and SEF paperwork has been created.

Finally, the MEP programme will support individual schools: all schools will experience a 'deep dive' in a visit this term and dependent on each school's categorisation and level of support, further support will be provided at the appropriate level (e.g. for governors, senior leaders, middle leaders).

The DfE are indicating that schools with an outstanding judgement will not be exempt from routine inspection in the future; in tandem with this, Ofsted have expressed the intention to inspect more outstanding schools this year on the basis of their risk assessment, which now includes a criterion of length of time since the school was last inspected. It is not possible, with the current capacity of the school improvement team, to offer schools with an outstanding judgement a significant amount of additional time from their Merton Education Partner to help them prepare for inspection.

Therefore, additional support is required to support schools, particularly those not currently receiving additional support from their Merton Education Partner, to prepare for inspection under the new framework.

Strategic goals for the project

- We will aim to provide all Merton schools over a three year period with a two day review, carried out by two inspectors, at least one of whom will be a serving Ofsted inspector.
 - We will aim to ensure that these reviews will work effectively alongside the existing Merton Education Partner programme; the programme of Guided Peer Reviews and other peer reviews being carried out by schools; and each school's own school improvement work.
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Project Outcomes

Intended Outcomes

1. Leadership teams in schools feel prepared for Ofsted.
 2. Strengths and areas for development, defined within the methodology of the current framework, are identified for each school.
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Actions

To note: as was suggested in the last Board meeting, the employment of an additional inspector for a year was considered. Although it would mean that all schools could be covered in a year, it would mean a cost of approximately £80,000 in a single year, and would not factor in the idea of having *two* inspectors to conduct a review (a model which is more akin to a Section 8 inspection).

Schools have been listed according to when they were last inspected, and when they might expect to be inspected again:

Good schools: every four years

Outstanding schools (should they cease to be exempt from routine inspection): every four years

Schools judged to require improvement: three years

The list does not include those schools already inspected under the current framework, and schools where there is already a significant amount of additional support already being provided.

Participant profile

Reach:

Date of last
inspection

Year 1 (2020):

Outstanding schools:

Ursuline

November 2006

St Mary's

November 2007

Dundonald	March 2009
Wimbledon Chase	May 2012
Holy Trinity	March 2013
Bishop Gilpin	April 2013
Merton Park	July 2015
Wimbledon Park	October 2016
Good schools:	
The Priory	October 2016
St Teresa's	February 2017
William Morris	February 2017
Aragon	March 2017
Pelham	March 2017
Hatfeild	March 2017
Joseph Hood	March 2017

Year 2 (2021):**Outstanding schools:**

Cricket Green	February 2018
Rutlish	April 2017
Ricards Lodge	November 2017

Good schools:

St John Fisher	October 2017
Abbotsbury	October 2017
The Sherwood	November 2017
Gorringe Park	November 2017
Wimbledon College	December 2017
St Matthew's	January 2018
Sacred Heart	February 2018
Hillcross	February 2018
Melrose	May 2018
Liberty	June 2018
Hollymount	June 2018
Cranmer	July 2018

RI schools:

Stanford	-
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Year 3 (2022)**Outstanding schools:**

Perseid	July 2019
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Good schools:

Morden	September 2018
Raynes Park	January 2019
Bond	February 2019
Garfield	May 2019
Poplar	May 2019
Merton Abbey	May 2019
SMART	June 2019
St Mark's Primary	June 2019
Lonesome	July 2019
Beecholme	July 2019

The programme of support will be offered to all schools on this list; where they do not wish to take advantage of the support, the next school from the following year will be offered the opportunity of the support earlier.

Costings

Year 1

Two inspectors for two days for each school = $4 \times £550 \times 15 = £33,000$

Year 2

Two inspectors for two days for each school = $4 \times £550 \times 16 = £35,200$

Year 3

Two inspectors for two days for each school = $4 \times £550 \times 11 = £24,200$

Evaluation

Project success will be judged according to the realisation of the following outcomes:

1. All Ofsted inspections taking place under the new framework to maintain or improve judgements in Attain schools following the work undertaken.
2. Headteachers to report increased confidence following consultant visits.
3. Senior leaders to report increased confidence following consultant visits.
4. Middle leaders to report increased confidence following consultant visits.