

TITLE OF REPORT: Analysis of School Inspections Spring and Summer Terms 2019

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Summary

This report details the position of Gateshead schools in relation to Ofsted Inspection findings for the spring and summer terms 2019.

Background

In this version of the school inspection framework each school is given an overall **effectiveness grade** based upon the following areas;

- effectiveness of leadership and management
- quality of teaching, learning and assessment
- personal development, behaviour and welfare
- outcomes for pupils.

The quality of Early Years and 6th Forms are also assessed.

September 2015 saw the introduction of a significantly different approach to school inspection. Essentially, “outstanding” schools are largely exempt.

Ofsted use the following grading system

- 1 = Outstanding
- 2 = Good
- 3 = Requires Improvement
- 4 = Inadequate

Schools identified as “requires improvement” will usually be re-inspected within two years, and often before. Schools that are judged as requires improvement with a leadership management grade of requires improvement will receive regular monitoring visits from HMI.

Full copies of all inspection reports can be found at www.ofsted.gov.uk.

Outcomes

Primary/Nursery School	School Type	Previous Inspection	Present Inspection
Birtley East Primary	Maintained	good	good
Fell Dyke Primary	Maintained	outstanding	requires improvement
St Agnes Catholic Primary	Catholic	outstanding	good
Lobley Hill Primary	Maintained	good	good
St Joseph's Infants, Birtley	Catholic	good	good
St Joseph's Primary, Blaydon	Catholic	good	good
Larkspur Primary	Maintained	requires improvement	good
Bede Primary	Maintained	outstanding	good
Swalwell Primary	Maintained	requires improvement	requires improvement
Falla Park Primary	Maintained	requires improvement	good

Secondary School	School Type	Previous Inspection	Present Inspection
Lord Lawson Academy	Academy	requires improvement	requires improvement
Kingsmeadow Comprehensive	Maintained	requires improvement	good

In the spring and summer terms 12 schools were inspected:

10 Primary/Nurse Schools

- 8 schools were judged to be good
- 2 schools were judged to require improvement

- 3 schools received a more negative grade.
- 5 schools received the same grade as in the previous inspection
- 2 schools received a more positive grade

2 Secondary Schools

- 1 school judged to require improvement
- 1 school judged to be good

- 1 school improved on the previous grade.
- 1 school received the same grade as in the previous inspection.

Overall Summary

68 Primary Schools – 64 Good or Outstanding, 4 Require Improvement

6 Specials – 6 Good or Outstanding

10 Secondary Schools – 6 Good or Outstanding

Outstanding Schools

By law, schools judged to be outstanding are exempt from the normal ofsted inspection cycle unless ofsted identifies specific issues with a school that gives cause for an inspection. This approach by ofsted has led to some outstanding schools not being inspected for over 10 years and having judgements based on ofsted inspection frameworks that may have been superseded 2 or 3 times. Ofsted has made it clear that it is no longer comfortable with this situation and as a consequence inspected twice the number of outstanding schools this year as compared with the previous year. In Gateshead we have approximately 40% of primary/special schools judged as outstanding – approximately double the national average.

Ofsted has increased their focus on outstanding schools in Gateshead. Essentially, ofsted has inspected those outstanding schools where published test results have fallen. Nationally, the vast majority of outstanding schools that have been inspected have been downgraded.

In Gateshead; Bede, St. Agnes, Highfield and Fell Dyke have all lost their outstanding status in the 18/19 academic year. While this is a disappointment it

does not necessarily shown that the children in these schools are receiving a poorer education but it is does show that these schools are not achieving the criteria needed to be outstanding on the latest ofsted framework. The Council's school improvement service continues to intervene where it identifies the need for support, irrespective of the ofsted judgement.

The Education Inspection Framework – a new inspection framework for schools to be introduced from September 2019

Ofsted will implement a new inspection framework from September 2019. While there are similarities with the previous framework there also significant differences. Most significant, potentially for the primary schools, will be the focus on the quality of the curriculum across all subjects. While reading, writing and mathematics will still have a high profile, Ofsted has made it clear that all elements of the national curriculum will be assessed in much greater detail. Most Headteachers and Teacher would welcome a more broad and balanced education beyond the core subjects but primary schools have been "pushed" along a highly reading, writing and mathematics dominated curriculum for a for a number of years and, consequently, they will need time to adjust to Ofsted's new demands.

Ofsted will continue to give schools an overall effectiveness grade but now based on the following 4 sub- judgements.

- Quality of Education
- Behaviour and Attitudes
- Personal Development
- Leadership and Management

Recommendations

OSC is asked to consider the position of schools in relation to ofsted inspections.

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