

## **School Ofsted Judgements**

### **Purpose**

1. This report is a regular update for the committee focused Ofsted inspections since the last meeting.

### **Inspections**

2. On 25 March 2020, the Secretary of State for Education wrote to Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, suspending routine inspection activity from March 2020.
3. A phased return to routine inspection began in September 2020 with remote visits focusing on schools' response to the pandemic. January 2021 onwards saw the resumption of section 8 inspections for schools judged as inadequate, those with two consecutive requires improvement judgements or significant safeguarding concerns.
4. Summer term 2021 has seen the resumption of onsite section 8 inspections, again for schools judged as inadequate, those with two consecutive requires improvement judgements (RI) or are significant safeguarding concerns as well as the addition of inspecting schools currently judged as good whose last inspection is now outside the 5 year statutory window (17 schools in Wiltshire).

### **The Wiltshire picture since March 2020**

5. During this period Wiltshire has seen a total of 29 Ofsted inspections, 7 schools have received 2 section 8's; one in the spring term as a virtual inspection and again in the summer term as a face-to-face visit.
6. Of these inspections, the current Ofsted grades are:
  - 4 inadequate;
  - 6 requiring improvement, 5 being double requires improvement
  - 10 good
  - 1 outstanding
  - 1 currently ungraded (previously inadequate)
7. Remote Visits – Autumn term 2020
  - 12 schools received remote visits
8. Section 8 inspections February 2021 onwards
  - 11 section 8 visits, remote inspections, not the full inspection

## **Summer term 2021**

9. Full, onsite Section 8s began on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to ensure schools are taking effective action towards being graded as good as their next section 5 inspection. Current Ofsted grades will not be changed.
10. Other schools that may be visited include:
  - inadequate and double requires improvement, these inspections will be onsite under Covid safe measures.
  - Inadequate and double requires improvement that have improved could convert to a full inspection if deemed appropriate
  - 'good' schools that have not been inspected within 5-year window (17 in Wiltshire)
  - 'outstanding' that request and inspection
  - where significant concerns are raised
11. To date 7 schools have been inspected during the summer term.

## **Overall trends from Wiltshire inspections during this period**

12. All Section 8 inspections to date have found schools to be taking effective action
13. **Strengths identified:**
  - Schools remote learning offers
  - Support for vulnerable pupils and families
  - Checking learning through remote teaching
  - Governance and support during pandemic
14. **Areas for focus:**
  - Curriculum - monitoring and evaluation, knowledge and memorability of curriculum, knowledge over time
  - the impact of the curriculum to ensure it is effective in helping pupils to know and remember more
  - provide a well-sequenced programme of phonics teaching to pupils in the early stages of reading (Year 3 / Year 7).
  - Subject leader skills and expertise across the curriculum

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