

**TO: CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL
3 OCTOBER 2012**

**ANNUAL REPORT ON SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE INSPECTIONS 2011 – 12
(Director of Children, Young People and Learning)**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To summarise the outcomes of the inspections of Bracknell Forest schools carried out by OFSTED during the 2011-2012 academic year.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Panel NOTES the findings in the report.

3. Background

3.1 In September 2009 the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED) introduced new arrangements for reporting to the Secretary of State for Education on the quality and standards in schools in England under Section 5 of the Education Act 2005. These were further amended by new regulations that came into force from January 2012.

3.2 The main features of inspections have been:

- Focused inspections lasting no more than two days;
- Notice of inspections being no longer than two working days;
- A strong emphasis upon school improvement through the use of the school's own self-evaluation;
- A focus on four key areas of pupil achievement, quality of teaching, behaviour and safety of pupils and the quality of leadership and management in the school.

3.3 Inspectors will arrive at an overall judgement on the effectiveness and efficiency of the school. This will be informed by judgements which inspectors make about:

- the outcomes for individuals and groups of pupils, including how well they achieve in tests and examinations in relation to national averages, the progress they make and their well-being;
- the quality of the school's provision, including the quality of teaching;
- the quality of leadership and management, at all levels, including the impact of the work of the school governors in identifying priorities, directing and motivating staff and ensuring the smooth running of the school;
- the school's capacity to improve, based on an analysis of past performance, the systems in place to maintain improvement and the quality of the school's own self evaluation.

3.4 A common grading scale is used for making judgements

- Grade 1 Outstanding
- Grade 2 Good
- Grade 3 Satisfactory
- Grade 4 Inadequate

Unrestricted

- 3.5 Where OFSTED judge that a school's overall effectiveness is inadequate (Grade 4), it will be deemed to be in need either of Special Measures (SM) or a Notice to Improve (Ntl). This judgement is subject to moderation by senior HMI.

The definitions of these two categories of concern are:

Special Measures

Schools which require special measures because they are failing to give learners an acceptable standard of education, and where the persons responsible for leading, managing or governing the school are not demonstrating the capacity to secure the necessary improvements.

Notice to Improve

Schools which require significant improvement because they are performing significantly less well than they might reasonably be expected to perform. A school which is currently failing to provide an acceptable standard of education, but has the capacity to improve, will also be in this category.

- 3.6 Three other forms of inspection are in place:
- Subject inspections which focus on a particular subject within a school.
 - HMI monitoring visits of schools in Special Measures or Notice to Improve.
 - Ofsted monitoring of schools that were previously graded as satisfactory.
- 3.7 This report gives a partial picture of educational provision in the Borough as it focuses on the 15 schools which received 'Section 5' inspections during the academic year.

Children's Centres

- 3.8 One Children's Centre, the Alders, was inspected during the year and was graded as satisfactory. All Children's Centres, of which there are four in the Borough, will be inspected in a three year cycle.

4. Bracknell Forest Schools Inspected during the academic year 2011 – 2012: a summary

4.1 Number of BF Schools Inspected – 2011 - 2012

No. of schools inspected	Designation	Total in the LA
1	Infant	3
3	Junior	3
8	Primary	25*
2	Secondary	6
0	Special	1
1	PRU	1
Total no. inspected : 15		39

* Includes Jennett's Park Primary School which opened in September 2011

4.2 Outcomes – judgements on overall school effectiveness in 2011 – 12

This table shows the grade awarded for each of the 15 schools inspected.

Categorisation	1 - Outstanding	2 – Good	3 - Satisfactory	4 - Inadequate
Infant		1		
Junior		2	1	
Primary		4	3	1
Secondary			2	
Special				
PRU		1		
Total		8	6	1

4.3 Outcomes – judgements on overall school effectiveness (cumulative from 2007)

Most recent Bracknell Forest figures

This table shows the grades awarded for all schools in Bracknell Forest in their most recent inspection.

Categorisation	1 - Outstanding	2 – Good	3 - Satisfactory	4 - Inadequate
All BF schools	6 (16%)	21 (55%)	9 (24%)	2 (5%)
<i>(2010 - 2011 figures)</i>	<i>7 (18%)</i>	<i>18 (47%)</i>	<i>11 (29%)</i>	<i>2 (5%)</i>

Jennett's Park Primary School has been excluded as no inspection data is available.

A list of all schools and their most recent Ofsted inspection grade is included in Appendix A.

Most recent national figures (cumulative to March 2012)

This table shows the latest grades awarded for **all** schools in England.

Categorisation	1 - Outstanding	2 – Good	3 - Satisfactory	4 - Inadequate
Primary	18%	51%	29%	2%
Secondary	27%	40%	30%	3%
All schools	21%	49%	28%	2%

Inspection outcomes nationally for **all** schools inspected **since January 2012** and the introduction of a revised framework show a different picture.

Categorisation	1 - Outstanding	2 – Good	3 - Satisfactory	4 - Inadequate
Primary	5%	51%	34%	9%
Secondary	6%	41%	39%	14%
All schools	7%	50%	34%	9%

5. Main Conclusions/Observations

- 5.1 Overall performance has improved with a greater number of schools being judged good or better than in the previous year.
- 5.2 The introduction of a new Framework for inspection in January 2012 coincided with an increased emphasis from Ofsted on inspecting schools that were previously judged to be satisfactory. The LA's own monitoring of school performance had identified a number of schools where focussed support was required in order to secure an appropriate OFSTED judgement. Supported self-reviews were undertaken in order to help ensure schools were well prepared. These focussed on the quality of teaching and the availability of accurate performance data.
- 5.3 The majority of Ofsted judgements on schools were largely as the LA would have anticipated based on our own analysis of school performance data and knowledge of each school. Where a difference has occurred, and in particular where a school has entered a category of concern, this can be through the particular focus given by an inspection team or through issues that have emerged during the inspection period that have caused inspectors to question the judgements made by the school. In some instances, initial hypotheses based on a desk top analysis of data by inspectors have been successfully challenged by the school with the support of the LA.

Unrestricted

- 5.4 Fourteen of the 15 schools inspected during the year were judged satisfactory or better with regard to overall effectiveness with eight being judged to be good. Schools judged as satisfactory receive additional support through the work of the LA's advisory school improvement team.
- 5.5 One school, Birch Hill Primary School was removed from special measures and graded as good. One school was deemed to be in need of special measures – Wildmoor Heath Primary School.
- 5.6 Great Hollands Primary School and College Hall PRU moved from being satisfactory to being judged to be good. Whitegrove Primary School was graded as good having previously been graded as outstanding in a reduced tariff inspection in 2008 and Binfield Primary School moved to satisfactory having previously been graded as good in 2006. Other schools maintained their inspection grading.

Early Years and Foundation Stage

- 5.7 The overall effectiveness of the Early Years Foundation Stage provision continues to be good. No separate judgements are now made of this Stage in published reports but comments indicate strengths in this area in most schools.

Primary schools

- 5.8 The reports indicate that our primary schools are strong on delivering a range of learning outcomes for pupils, including their personal well-being and ensuring that they feel safe. Leadership continues to be acknowledged as a strength in most schools.
- 5.9 An analysis of the key issues identified by Ofsted in the inspection of primary schools continues to show some weaknesses in the use made of assessment to ensure that all pupils are challenged and that tasks match pupils' abilities and include new learning. The tracking of pupil progress continues to improve. Weaknesses have been identified where the quality of learning and teaching are inconsistent across the school and therefore standards have not risen in line with improvements in other schools.

Secondary schools

- 5.10 Two secondary schools, Brakenhale and Sandhurst, were inspected this year where the inspection teams recognised improvements in pupil outcomes and progress.
- 5.11 One secondary school, Easthampstead Park, received a monitoring inspection from Ofsted in January 2012 to review progress against the actions identified in the previous full inspection. This concluded that the school was making satisfactory progress with effective monitoring being undertaken by the Management Intervention Board.

Special Educational Needs

- 5.12 Overall provision for pupils with special educational needs was judged to be a strength in many schools.

Alternative Provision

- 5.13 College Hall, a Pupil Referral Unit for students aged 11- 16 and school phobics was graded as good in their inspection in June, having previously been graded as satisfactory.

6. Subject Inspections

- 6.1 There was one subject inspection during the year, for geography (Wildridings Primary School). The overall judgement was satisfactory and the inspector provided the school with a useful commentary on their work and areas for development. Subject inspections are published and also contribute to annual national reports produced by OFSTED.

7. Local Authority Action

- 7.1 The LA has continued to support schools prior to, during and after an inspection. Guidance has been published to assist schools with new aspects of the inspection framework including a greater emphasis on effective teaching, pupil progress over time and the views of parents and children.
- 7.2 The LA has attended all the feedbacks given to schools at the end of the inspection and, on many occasions, an LA adviser has met with the lead inspector to answer specific questions about the context, performance and work of the school.
- 7.3 All inspection reports have been presented formally to the School and Children's Centre Performance Advisory Panel (SCCPAP) where the headteacher and a school governor have answered questions from the panel of elected members and outlined the future actions the school plans to take.
- 7.4 Where a school has been placed in a category of concern the LA has submitted an action plan to OFSTED which sets out the support that the school will receive, targets for improvement and monitoring arrangements. These plans have been approved by OFSTED. The effectiveness of these plans is considered when OFSTED re-visit a school as part of their monitoring programme.
- 7.5 A Management Intervention Board (MIB) has been established to work with schools in Special Measures and those issued with a Notice to Improve. The MIB monitors progress made against the actions identified in the plan and reports to the Director of Children, Young People and Learning, who then considers any further appropriate actions. The work of the MIB and the support provided to schools in Ofsted categories has been commended by Ofsted in their monitoring reports.
- 7.6 Further changes to the Framework for the inspection of schools will be introduced from September 2012. These include a reduction of the notice period for an inspection from two days to half a day, changing the grade descriptor from 'satisfactory' to 'requires improvement' and replacing 'notice to improve' with 'serious weaknesses.'

8. Equalities Impact Assessment

- 8.1 OFSTED inspections take due account of equalities issues in considering standards and in considering pupils' personal development and well-being, in particular exploring whether there are groups of pupils who may be making less than expected rates of progress. The outcomes of these evaluations are reflected in OFSTED's overall comments about attainment and progress. Where there are issues these are reflected in the detail of individual school reports.

9. Background Papers

- 9.1 OFSTED inspection reports for Bracknell Forest schools inspected during the academic year 2011-2012
The Ofsted Framework for School Inspection (January 2012)
School Inspections Act 1996 (amended by School Standards & Framework Act 1998)
The Education Act 2005
The Education Act 1997

10. Appendices

- 10.1 Appendix A: Ofsted judgements for Bracknell Forest schools.

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Doc. Ref Annual Report on School Inspections 2011 -12.doc

Inspection outcomes – All schools from 2008 to July 2012

Outstanding	
	St Joseph's RC Primary School
	St Michael's Sandhurst CE Primary School
	Uplands Primary School
	Ascot Heath Infant
	Edgbarrow
	Ranelagh

Good	
	College Town Infant School
	Holly Spring Infant School
	Ascot Heath CE Junior School
	Fox Hill Primary School
	Holly Spring Junior School
	Great Hollands Primary School
	Birch Hill Primary School
	Crowthorne CE Primary School
	Harmans Water Primary School
	Meadow Vale Primary School
	New Scotland Hill School
	Owlsmoor Primary School
	Sandy Lane Primary School
	St Margaret Clitherow RC Primary School
	St Michael's EH CE Primary School
	Warfield CE Primary School
	Whitegrove Primary School
	Winkfield St Mary's CE Primary School
	Kennel Lane (Special)
	Garth Hill College
	College Hall (PRU)

Satisfactory	
	College Town Junior School
	Binfield CE Primary School
	Crown Wood Primary School
	Cranbourne Primary School
	The Pines Primary School
	Wildridings Primary School
	Wooden Hill Primary School
	The Brakenhale
	Sandhurst

Inadequate	
	Easthampstead Park
	Wildmoor Heath School