

Monitoring inspections of schools that are subject to special measures

Guidance for inspecting schools that are subject to special measures under section 8 of the Education Act 2005

This guidance sets out the judgements that inspectors make and report on during monitoring inspections of schools that are subject to special measures. It indicates the main activities that need to be undertaken from the time the school is notified of the monitoring inspection until publication of the monitoring inspection letter.

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Introduction

1. Schools are made subject to special measures under section 44(1) of the Education Act 2005, where the Chief Inspector is of the opinion that:

‘...the school is failing to give its pupils an acceptable standard of education, and the persons responsible for leading, managing or governing the school are not demonstrating the capacity to secure the necessary improvement in the school.’¹
2. Monitoring inspections of schools that require special measures are carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005, but Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector (HMCI) may elect to treat them as section 5 inspections using his powers under section 9 of the Act. These monitoring arrangements do not prejudice the Chief Inspector’s discretionary power under section 8(2) of the Education Act 2005 to ‘inspect any school in England in circumstances where he is not required to do so by section 5...’ of the Act.
3. All monitoring inspections are carried out in accordance with the principles and code of conduct for inspectors set out in *The framework for school inspection*.² In conducting the monitoring inspection inspectors will follow the methodology and protocols set out in the *School inspection handbook*.³ Schools that are subject to special measures are not required to prepare a separate action plan but are expected to amend their existing plans to address the areas for improvement identified by the section 5 inspection.
4. The local authority⁴, proprietor or sponsor⁵ must submit a statement and a plan of action to HMCI within 10 working days of the school receiving the section 5 inspection report. One of Her Majesty’s Inspectors (HMI) will usually conduct the first monitoring inspection within four to six weeks of the publication of the section 5 inspection report. During this one day inspection, the inspector will meet with the headteacher, the chair of the governing body and a representative of the local authority, proprietor or sponsor to discuss the implementation of the statement of action and the school’s improvement plan and to determine whether these are fit for purpose. Where any change of staffing has taken place since the previous inspection, a review of the single central register will take place. The inspector will also outline the likely pattern of future monitoring inspections.

¹ Education Act 2005, s44(1) <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/18/contents>.

² *The framework for school inspection*, Ofsted, 2014; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120100.

³ *School inspection handbook*, Ofsted, 2014; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120101.

⁴ Ss.15(2)(d) and 15(2)(e) Education Act 2005:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/18/section/15>.

⁵ Ss. 17(1A)(d) and 17(3)(a) Education Act 2005:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/18/section/17>.

5. Inspectors are required to make a judgement about whether the school should be permitted to employ newly qualified teachers (NQTs). If a school wishes to appoint newly qualified teachers before the first monitoring inspection it must first seek approval in writing with supporting reasons. This requirement does not apply to academies that are judged to require special measures. However, the lead inspector should either report in the monitoring letter that in his/her opinion the academy may appoint NQTs, or, recommend that the academy should not seek to appoint NQTs.
6. A school may receive up to five monitoring inspections over the 24 months following the section 5 inspection that placed it in special measures.
7. On the second and any subsequent monitoring inspection, the lead inspector will consider whether the school has made sufficient progress and no longer requires special measures. Where this is the case, the section 8 inspection will be deemed a section 5 inspection. All the judgements required by the evaluation schedule will be made and a full inspection report produced.
8. If, after a programme of monitoring lasting around 24 months, special measures have not been removed, the school must be reinspected under section 5 of the Education Act 2005.
9. If the progress of a school towards removal of special measures is judged to be insufficient after a year, the Secretary of State for Education may require the local authority, proprietor or sponsor to examine carefully the options available to them. It is therefore essential that, when a school has been in special measures for a year, Ofsted is able to report substantively on the school's overall progress since being made subject to special measures.

Staffing inspections

10. The HMI who carries out the first monitoring inspection of a school made subject to special measures will normally perform this role throughout the period that the school is monitored.
11. If following reinspection the school is deemed to still require special measures a new lead inspector will manage a further programme of monitoring activity.
12. Each school is allocated an overall number of inspector days related to the size of the school. The lead inspector should use the tariff flexibly to meet the priorities for each monitoring inspection. If the areas for improvement and/or the school context are very complex, the relevant Senior HMI may consider an increase in the tariff. Lead inspectors should discuss their considerations about flexible use of tariff with the relevant Senior HMI.
13. Where a school that is subject to special measures has residential or boarding provision, a social care inspector will be allocated as a team member to the first monitoring inspection and, if necessary, to subsequent monitoring inspections, which will include the inspection of any national minimum

standards that have not been met. The inclusion of a social care team inspector would only occur where boarding or residential provision was identified as an area for improvement at the last inspection⁶.

Before the inspection

Notification

14. At the **first** monitoring inspection, the lead inspector will normally inform the school up to two working days in advance of the inspection. This is to allow governors and the relevant strategic partners (local authority, proprietor or sponsor) to be present for discussion about support for the school and the likely pattern of monitoring. It will also enable as many members of the governing body as possible to attend the inspection feedback.
15. If the headteacher is unavailable, the lead inspector should ask to speak to the next most senior member of staff. Once the inspection has been confirmed the lead inspector will inform the Inspection Service Provider (ISP), who will send formal notification to the school by email.
16. **Requests for a deferral** will be handled in accordance with Ofsted's policy about the deferral of inspections⁷. Lead inspectors must immediately contact the helpdesk. The deferral policy makes clear that the absence of the headteacher is not normally a reason for deferring an inspection.
17. The purpose of the telephone call announcing the inspection is for the lead inspector to:
 - confirm the date of the inspection and remind the school that the monitoring letter will be published on Ofsted's website
 - explain that the inspection is carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005
 - confirm that the school is able to inform the governing body that the monitoring inspection is taking place
 - make sure that the headteacher understands the purpose and focus of the inspection and the judgements that will be made
 - indicate the likely format of the inspection and the activities to be conducted
 - ensure the school is aware of the specific requirement of the first monitoring inspection to meet with representatives of the governing body and the local

⁶ Further guidance for education and social care inspectors on conducting integrated monitoring inspections is available in *Conducting additional inspections of independent schools* (090060), Ofsted, 2013; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/090060.

⁷ <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/deferral-of-inspections-information-for-schools>.

authority, proprietor or sponsor and to feed back to as many governors as possible at the end of the inspection.

18. At the **second and subsequent** monitoring inspections, the lead inspector will normally inform the school that it is to be inspected, from noon on the working day before the inspection is due to start. Lead inspectors should be aware that they may not get through to the school immediately. They should reserve sufficient time to ensure that they make direct contact during the afternoon. Refer to paragraphs 19-21 for the purpose of the call.
19. In outlining the inspection arrangements, the lead inspector should:
 - explain that the principles for engagement with senior staff set out in the *School inspection handbook* will be applied where possible, but the lead inspector has the discretion to manage this in the way s/he feels is most appropriate
 - discuss with the headteacher the approach to feedback on lesson observations and note that, in line with the *School inspection handbook*, the quality of teaching will not be graded in individual lessons, learning walks or other similar activities
 - ascertain whether there are particular reasons why any teachers should not be observed, for example, if they are subject to informal or formal capability procedures where the use of observations by Ofsted may compromise those procedures
 - ensure that the headteacher is aware that Ofsted's evidence from lesson observations, whether joint or otherwise, should not be used as evidence in competency/disciplinary proceedings, or for the purposes of performance management.
20. At the second or subsequent monitoring inspections, inspectors should also request during the telephone call that the following information is made available at the start of the inspection:
 - school timetable information, staff list and times for the school day
 - information about any pre-planned interruption to the school's normal routines
 - the single central record, which summarises the checks and vetting of all staff working with pupils
 - all logs that record exclusions, pupils taken off roll, incidents of poor behaviour, racist incidents and incidents of bullying
 - information about pupils placed in alternative provision
 - up-to-date attendance information

- a list of referrals made to the designated person for safeguarding in the school and those that were subsequently referred to the LADO, along with the brief details of the resolution
 - the current school improvement plan and any evaluation of the impact of actions taken to date
 - recent data on attainment and progress
 - records of any routine monitoring of the quality of teaching
 - information about the findings and use made of performance management arrangements including information about the most recent performance management outcomes - all documentation should be in an anonymised format
 - evidence of the work of governors⁸ and their impact
 - reports of any external evaluation of the school.
21. The telephone call should also provide the headteacher with an opportunity to highlight the progress that the school has made since the previous section 5 inspection or previous monitoring inspection, and to provide any new contextual information. Key points arising from the telephone call should be noted on an evidence form. Inspectors should be mindful that the headteacher will need to accommodate the inspection at short notice while still managing the day-to-day operation of the school.
22. Monitoring inspections should focus on the most important areas for improvement identified in the section 5 inspection that judged the school to require special measures. They will reflect the issues raised by the pre-inspection preparation and the telephone discussion with the headteacher. The focus may shift as new evidence becomes available or other issues emerge.
23. The first monitoring inspection will last for up to one day and will be conducted by HMI. There will be no preparation requirement and a brief letter will be drafted at the school. HMI should plan to arrive following the arrangements agreed with the school during the telephone conversation that announced the inspection. HMI must show his/her identity badge on arrival and ensure that the headteacher has been informed of his/her arrival.
24. The purpose of the first monitoring inspection is to:
- evaluate the school's progress since being made subject to special measures and how well it is placed to achieve rapid improvement

⁸ 'Governors' refers to those responsible for governance in the school. They may be part of the school's local board, committee or governing body.

- evaluate the extent to which the school's actions are rigorously focused on tackling the key areas for improvement identified in the section 5 inspection
- evaluate how effectively the school is adapting its existing school development or improvement plans to meet the challenge of moving rapidly out of special measures
- evaluate the impact that governors at the school are having on bringing about necessary improvements and report on the effectiveness of governance at the school - where an external review of governance and/or use of the pupil premium was recommended at the section 5 inspection, inspectors will evaluate how urgently it has been commissioned and review its impact, unless it has not taken place⁹
- evaluate the statement of action
- determine whether the school may appoint NQTs.

25. The structure of the day will usually be as follows:

- meeting with the headteacher/deputy headteacher or other senior leader(s), the chair of the governing body and representatives from the local authority, proprietor or sponsor; this meeting should focus on actions taken so far to tackle the reasons the school is causing concern
- evaluation of the LA/proprietor/sponsor statement of action and any changes to the school's improvement/development plan
- separate meetings with representatives of the local authority, proprietor or sponsor; the chair of the governing body and the headteacher/deputy headteacher or other senior leader(s)
- time to allow the lead inspector to reflect and draft the monitoring letter and points for feedback
- final meeting with key stakeholders including as many governors as possible.

26. If the statement of action or the school's improvement plan are judged to be not fit for purpose, the local authority, proprietor or sponsor will be informed, asked to address the weaknesses urgently, and have the revised version(s) ready for the second monitoring inspection. In this case, the lead inspector will re-evaluate and report on the revised statement of action and/or the school's improvement plan during the second monitoring inspection.

⁹ The DfE guidance on pupil premium reviews, to which schools for which one is recommended are directed (<https://www.gov.uk/pupil-premium-reviews>) in the covering letter sent with the final section 5 inspection report, includes 'You should start the process of commissioning a review within 2 weeks of it being recommended and should aim to have the review completed within 8 weeks.'

The second and subsequent monitoring inspections

Planning the inspection

27. The lead inspector may prepare and distribute brief joining instructions to any team inspector(s) which could include:
- essential information about the school and the timings and domestic arrangements for the inspection
 - details of the main focus of the monitoring inspection and the key issues that the team will explore
 - provisional allocation of specific subjects, year groups and areas of the school's work for team inspectors to observe and investigate.
28. The main focus of the inspection, and the key issues the team will explore, must always be shared with the headteacher during the initial meeting at the start of the inspection.

During the inspection

At the start of the monitoring inspection

29. Inspectors must show their identity badges on arrival and ensure that the headteacher has been informed of their arrival. The lead inspector should meet briefly with the headteacher and/or senior leadership team at the beginning of the inspection to:
- introduce any team inspectors
 - make arrangements for a longer meeting at a convenient time with the headteacher to discuss the school's self-evaluation and other relevant matters
 - confirm arrangements for meetings with representatives of those responsible for the governance of the school and key staff
 - confirm arrangements for providing feedback after any lesson observations
 - request information about staff absence and other practical issues
 - ascertain whether there are particular reasons why any teachers should not be observed, for example, if they are subject to capability procedures
 - ensure that the headteacher is aware that Ofsted's evidence from lesson observations, whether joint or otherwise, should not be used as evidence in capability/disciplinary proceedings or for the purposes of performance management.
30. The lead inspector should ensure that the inspection activity starts promptly. Inspection activities during the second and subsequent monitoring inspections will be shaped by the lead inspector's judgements about the progress made by

the school. The activities carried out during monitoring inspections are similar to those in section 5 inspections although the emphasis will depend on the circumstances of the school and its improvement priorities.

31. Inspectors should take account of the following.

- **Contextual matters** including any significant changes to staffing, the pupil population and the school's status, for example, if the school becomes part of a federation.
- **Achievement of pupils at the school** taking account of their attainment and the quality of learning and progress for all pupils, including disabled pupils and those with special educational needs, and how well the school is narrowing the attainment gap.
 - Inspectors should consider first-hand evidence, **which must include a sample of lesson observations** and school data for different groups of pupils and, where appropriate, recent test and examination results. Reference should be made to the challenge and impact of the school's targets.
 - Inspectors will need to place particular emphasis on current attainment and progress indicators. However, it is important to avoid speculation on likely future test and examination results.
 - The school's success in overcoming the causes of special measures, will make a significant contribution to the judgement about whether achievement is improving and to what degree.
 - For schools where attainment falls below the government's current floor standard, inspectors should consider the appropriateness of specific strategies being used by the school to meet such targets, including the impact of any external support.
 - Inspectors should judge the accuracy and reliability of the school's own data.
- **The quality of teaching** with particular emphasis on: how this promotes better learning and improved progress over time; the use of assessment; and the impact of teaching on pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development.
- **The behaviour and safety of pupils** with particular reference to: improvement in pupils' attitudes, conduct and behaviour; improved management of behaviour; how well pupils adopt safe practices; and pupils' attendance and punctuality.
- **The quality of leadership in and management of the school** with reference to the growing impact of leaders and managers at all levels, including that of the governing body, on school improvement and the school's capacity for sustained improvement without undue reliance on external support.

- Inspectors should assess the rigour and accuracy of the school’s self-evaluation, including its assessment about the quality of teaching and learning.
 - The work of the governing body should be evaluated with respect to the improving contribution that it makes to leadership and management, and its impact on the school’s performance.
 - Where an external review of governance and/or use of the pupil premium was recommended at the section 5 inspection, inspectors should consider how urgently it has been commissioned and review its impact, unless it has not taken place.
 - Inspectors should consider whether the school’s leaders can demonstrate convincingly that the school’s capacity to improve is strengthening. It is important that the school’s leaders are having a significant impact on all of its areas of weakness and are able to sustain this improvement without an over-reliance on external support.
 - There should be clear evidence that leaders and managers are having an impact on accelerating learners’ progress and thereby raising attainment, particularly in schools where attainment is low.
- **External support:** the quality and impact of the external support provided to the school, with particular reference to the local authority’s, proprietor’s or sponsor’s statement of action and, as appropriate, the impact of support and challenge provided by other external partners.
 - **Specialist status:** this only needs to be referred to when it is having a significant impact on the overall effectiveness of the school in either a positive or negative way.
32. Inspectors must check the single central register during monitoring inspections if there have been changes to staffing since the previous inspection and/or if weaknesses in safeguarding arrangements were identified at the time of the section 5 inspection which judged the school to require special measures. If it becomes clear that there are inadequacies in care, child protection or health and safety, they **must** be reported and may influence the timing of the next monitoring inspection or the reinspection of the school, and have an impact on the judgement about the overall progress made by the school.
33. When the monitoring inspection indicates that safeguarding arrangements do not meet statutory requirements, inspectors must call the regional duty desk via the NBU to log their concern. Inspectors need to take account of the following.
- If safeguarding **was** identified as an area for improvement in the previous inspection, then it is very likely that the school will be judged to **not be making enough progress** towards the removal of special measures.
 - If safeguarding was **not** previously an area for improvement, this will affect the judgement about the overall progress made by the school. For example,

inadequate safeguarding arrangements may indicate more general weaknesses in leadership and governance. In these circumstances inspectors will need to exercise professional judgement in reaching a view about the overall progress made by the school.

- Inspectors should inform the appropriate Regional Director and a decision may be made to opt for one of the following:
 - an early unannounced monitoring inspection to check safeguarding requirements
 - bringing forward the next planned monitoring inspection of the school.

- 34. Where a monitoring inspection identifies significant concerns about aspects of the school's performance that were not identified in the previous section 5 inspection or any earlier monitoring inspections, these must be considered by inspectors and will affect the judgement about the progress made by the school.

- 35. The school should have opportunities to substantiate its views about the progress it has made since the previous section 5 inspection or monitoring inspection. In setting up inspection activities the lead inspector should indicate to the school what needs to be tested and ask the school to suggest the best ways of finding the necessary evidence.

- 36. During the second and subsequent monitoring inspections, inspectors are required to evaluate the school's progress towards the removal of special measures. Inspectors will make an overarching judgement on whether:

the school is making reasonable progress towards the removal of special measures

or

the school is not making enough progress towards the removal of special measures.

- 37. While, generally, this judgement will be informed by the school's progress in dealing with each of the areas for improvement identified by the section 5 inspection, other factors which arise during the monitoring period must not be ignored.

- 38. Inspectors should make the key judgement about the school's overall progress towards the removal of special measures by considering the evidence and using their professional judgement. The crucial factor is the anticipated timescale for the removal of special measures given the current rate of improvement. A school which is making reasonable progress will be on course to have special measures removed within 18-24 months of the monitoring period following the inspection which placed the school in special measures. A school which is not

making enough progress will be likely to still require special measures when the section 5 reinspection takes place.

39. At the final meeting, the inspection team must:
- judge the progress the school is making towards the removal of special measures, weighing the progress made against the areas for improvement identified during the section 5 inspection which placed the school in special measures
 - decide whether the school should be permitted to appoint newly qualified teachers (see paragraphs 45 to 46).

The views of pupils, parents and other stakeholders

40. Inspectors should talk with pupils during lessons, break and lunchtimes and, where appropriate, meet with pupils to discuss issues relating to the school's areas for improvement.
41. There is no requirement for schools to inform parents about section 8 inspections. However, headteachers should be encouraged to let parents know about these monitoring inspections and their outcomes because it is the duty of the governing body, proprietor or sponsor to keep parents informed about the progress the school is making.
42. Parents' comments received by Ofsted and/or parents' views received through Parent View will be made available to inspectors. At an appropriate point during the monitoring inspection the lead inspector may consult parents on their views about the school. Inspectors may also take account of the views of parents gathered by the school as part of its own evaluation of its work.

Evaluating external support

43. Inspectors may meet with representatives of external partners, giving particular emphasis to the work of the local authority, proprietor or sponsor and evaluate the impact of the support provided.
44. The judgement made by inspectors about the quality of the local authority's/proprietor's/sponsor's statement of action and the school's improvement plan must be reported in the first monitoring inspection letter. On subsequent inspections, inspectors will also report on the impact of the local authority's, proprietor's or sponsor's support for the school.

Newly qualified teachers (NQTs)

45. The lead inspector of the section 5 inspection that made the school subject to special measures will have made a judgement about the appointment of NQTs and made that clear at the final feedback to the school. In the case of an academy made subject to special measures the lead inspector should either make a recommendation on whether the academy may appoint NQTs, or

recommend that the academy should not seek to appoint NQTs. During the first monitoring inspection, the lead inspector will determine whether the school should be permitted to appoint NQTs and this decision should be reported in the monitoring letter. On subsequent monitoring inspections, the lead inspector should review the judgement made on the first inspection in the light of the progress made by the school, and confirm the permission or revise it. If the school is an academy then the lead inspector will review the recommendation about NQT appointments and report accordingly.

46. If a school has been permitted to appoint NQTs prior to the first monitoring inspection (see paragraph 9), the lead inspector should determine whether the school should continue to be permitted to appoint NQTs.

Registered provision for birth to three-year-olds

47. Ofsted inspects and reports on any registered provision managed by the governing body separately from the section 5 inspection, although in some cases the inspections may take place at the same time. If the registered provision is judged to be inadequate, it will be monitored and resinspected in line with the requirements for inspections of registered early years provision.

Removal of special measures

48. At the second and subsequent monitoring inspections the lead inspector should consider whether the school continues to require special measures.
49. Whatever the outcome, the lead inspector should explain clearly the reasons for the decision to remove or not to remove special measures during the feedback at the end of the inspection.
50. The judgement that special measures are no longer required may involve reference to:
 - evidence from previous monitoring inspections
 - the best interests of the pupils – this is paramount
 - the school’s ability to demonstrate that it meets the needs of all pupils and has the capacity for sustained improvement – this determines the timing of removal of special measures
 - the extent to which capacity for sustained improvement has been demonstrated by leaders and managers at all levels, rather than through an over-reliance on external support or on one or two individuals in the school
 - the overall rate of improvement – some schools may not be making enough progress for the removal of special measures before the reinspection.
51. When special measures are removed, the lead inspector **must on the final day of the inspection notify the regional duty HMI on the helpdesk** to

log the necessary details. Calls should be made to the helpline on 0300 123 4234 and lead inspectors should ask to be transferred to the regional duty HMI.

After the inspection

Feedback at the end of the monitoring inspection

52. The school should receive oral feedback at the end of the inspection. The whole inspection team should attend and will normally contribute to the feedback. It is the responsibility of the lead inspector to manage the meeting.
53. At the end of the first monitoring inspection, the inspector will provide oral feedback on the fitness for purpose of the statement of action and the school's improvement plan, and make clear the judgement about whether the school is permitted to employ NQTs.
54. At the end of the second and subsequent monitoring inspections, oral feedback must:
 - report the range of evidence gathered
 - include the judgement made about progress towards the removal of special measures, describing the progress made against each of the areas for improvement identified during the section 5 inspection which placed the school in special measures
 - comment on the impact of external support
 - clarify whether the school may appoint NQTs
 - make clear that the text of the letter or report may differ slightly from the oral feedback, but that the judgements will not change unless quality assurance deems that appropriate.
55. The lead inspector may indicate the main focus of the next monitoring inspection derived from the inspection findings.
56. Inspectors should identify additional priorities **only where they are essential** to the school's further development. Progress against these priorities has to be evaluated and reported at the next monitoring inspection. They are not to be added to the list of judgements to be made as set out in the annex to the covering letter. Any new priorities should help the school focus on what needs to be done next to improve the quality of education.
57. The feedback should normally be attended by:
 - the headteacher
 - the chair of the governing body or equivalent (and all governors for the first monitoring inspection)

- a representative of the local authority or the academy proprietor or sponsor, as appropriate
 - a representative of the diocese, for voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools
 - key external partners.
58. The lead inspector and headteacher should discuss which other members of staff, if any, will attend the feedback, especially if the feedback is challenging or raises sensitive issues. Where the inspection team has reached the judgement that special measures are no longer required, the oral feedback and written report should include the formal statement that:

‘In accordance with section 13(4) of the Education Act 2005, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector is of the opinion that the school no longer requires special measures’.

This judgement is not subject to moderation and is, therefore, not confidential. Where special measures are removed, a full section 5 report must be written.

The monitoring inspection letter and report

59. For the first monitoring inspection, the school will receive a brief letter, which will be published on the Ofsted website.
60. For the second and subsequent inspections, the school will receive a brief covering letter with the judgements included and a detailed monitoring report, both of which will be published on the Ofsted website.
61. When a monitoring inspection focuses on only one or two aspects of provision, this should be explained in the evidence section.
62. The monitoring letter for the first monitoring inspection must include:
- a judgement on the fitness for purpose of the statement of action and of the school’s improvement plan
 - a judgement about whether the school should be permitted to employ NQTs.
63. The monitoring letter and report for the second and subsequent inspections must include:
- the judgement about progress towards the removal of special measures
 - a judgement about whether the school should be permitted to employ NQTs
 - a brief summary of any significant changes to the context of the school
 - text evaluating the progress made by the school in tackling the key areas for improvement under the relevant headings:
 - achievement of pupils at the school

- the quality of teaching
 - behaviour and safety of pupils
 - the quality of leadership in and management of the school, with specific reference to the impact that governors at the school are having on bringing about necessary improvements
- a judgement on the quality and impact of external support, including a judgement on the quality of the local authority's /proprietor's/sponsor's revised action plan if it was judged 'not fit for purpose' at the first monitoring inspection.
64. Progress made on additional priorities for further improvement, identified in previous monitoring inspections, should be reported in the text of the next monitoring letter. They should not be added within the annex as bullet points alongside the original areas for improvement.
65. The arrangements for publication of letters and reports are as follows.
- The lead inspector will complete the letter and monitoring report the day after the inspection.
 - The inspection service provider will edit and send the letter and monitoring report to the school normally within five working days of the end of the inspection.
 - The school has 24 hours to check and report any factual inaccuracies to the inspection service provider.
 - The inspection service provider will prepare a final version of the letter and monitoring report which will be sent to the:
 - headteacher
 - Secretary of State for Education
 - chair of the governing body, interim executive board or proprietor as appropriate
 - local authority and academy proprietor or sponsor
 - diocese, for voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools
 - Education Funding Agency (EFA), for secondary schools with a sixth form
 - DfE Academies Advisers Unit, for academies
 - person or body responsible for appointing foundation governors if the school has a foundation.
66. When it is judged that the school no longer requires special measures, the section 8 monitoring inspection is deemed to be a section 5 inspection. A full inspection report must be written and published in accordance with relevant guidance on section 5 inspections.

67. The front cover of the report must include the statement:

'This inspection was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 which gives Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills (HMCI) the authority to cause any school to be inspected. The inspection was also deemed a section 5 inspection under the same Act.'

68. The introduction to the report should explain why the school was inspected. For example:

'When XXXX School was inspected in XX 201X, it was judged to require special measures. Subsequently, the school was inspected on xxx occasions.'

69. A report that removes special measures should include the following statement in accordance with the section 5 template guidance:

'In accordance with section 13 (4) of the Education Act 2005, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector is of the opinion that the school no longer requires special measures'.

Record of the inspection: The evidence base

70. The record of evidence does not include the joining instructions.

71. Lead inspectors may retain copies of inspection evidence until special measures have been removed, but must do so in line with Ofsted's information assurance policy and procedures. Evidence forms should be sent to the inspection service provider as soon as possible after the end of each monitoring inspection. The inspection service providers will retain and/or destroy evidence in accordance with Ofsted's policy.