



Guidance Summary of changes

Updated 28 June 2021

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Paragraphs 22 and 23: updated to clarify that inspection fees will be charged unless a deferral is granted in line with our deferral policy prior to the start of on-site inspection activity, or – in the case of pre-registration inspections – unless the school withdraws their application prior to being notified that an inspection will take place.

Paragraph 213: clarified circumstances in which the Department for Education (DfE) may commission Ofsted to carry out an emergency inspection.

April 2021

Clarified that the handbook applies in the event the DfE commissions us to inspect an association school that is normally inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI).

Clarified legal basis for inspectors’ powers of entry.

Clarified that notification calls for pre-registration and material change inspections are made 2 calendar days before inspection (not working days).

Clarified that ‘Form A’ should only be used if there are concerns about safeguarding or serious weaknesses.

Clarified the impact on judgements if inspectors are prevented from talking to pupils on inspection.

Updates to the material change, emergency and progress monitoring chapters to include scenarios in which the DfE may decide to bring forward a school’s next standard inspection, following an additional inspection, to update the school’s graded judgements.

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