

Formal Consultation

Proposals for the inspection of local area responsibilities for disabled children and young people and those who have special educational needs

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Introduction

- The Department for Education has asked Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to inspect local areas on their effectiveness in fulfilling their new duties.
- The framework for this new inspection is currently being developed and Ofsted and CQC are currently engaging in consultation about the proposed inspection.
- The consultation will end on 4 January 2016.

The following description of the inspection will be finalised in response to the consultation and from pilot inspection experience.

Proposed focus for inspection

- How effectively does the local area identify children and young people who are disabled and/or have special educational needs?
- How effectively does the local area meet the needs and improve the outcomes of children and young people who are disabled and/or have special educational needs?

These judgements are to be made about the performance of the local area since the implementation of the reforms in September 2014.

It is important to note that this is local area inspection and not a local authority inspection.

Proposal 1

Inspectors will evaluate how effectively the local area identifies disabled children and young people and those who have special educational needs.

If you have a comments please use #1

Effective identification of need

The evaluation includes children and young people who require SEN support and those who have education, health and care plans.

- Timeliness
- Usefulness (to inform planning/teaching/other provision; and as a baseline to set targets for progress/improvement, and evaluate the effectiveness of support)
- Engagement with children and young people (participation and communication)
- Engagement with parents/carers (participation and communication)
- Effectiveness of involvement and communication with others, as appropriate
- Effectiveness of local area arrangements in providing evidence that needs have been identified

Proposal 2

Inspectors will evaluate how effectively the local area meets the needs and improves the outcomes of disabled children and young people and those who have special educational needs.

If you have a comments please use #2

Effectiveness in meeting needs

The evaluation includes those children and young people who require SEN support and those who have education, health and care plans.

- Satisfaction by children and young people in the progress they have made
- Satisfaction by parents/carers in the progress made.
- Outcomes for children and young people - progress made, towards high expectation targets (towards age expectations for skills/knowledge/understanding, and preparing for adulthood to include progress to higher education or employment, independent living, participating in society, being as healthy as possible in adult life)
- Effectiveness of local area arrangements in providing evidence that needs have been met (as above)

Proposal 3

A wide range of information will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of local area arrangements to identify disabled children and young people and those who have special educational needs; and to meet their needs and improve their outcomes.

If you have a comments please use #3

Proposed inspection arrangements

- All local areas will be inspected, with an inspection interval of up to five years.
- Inspection teams will include a HMI, a CQC inspector and a local authority inspector.
- Inspectors will review available national data as part of their preparation, including within area inspection outcomes from CQC and Ofsted.
- It is expected that local areas will know how effective they are and will be able to demonstrate this.

Proposed inspection arrangements

- The field work is likely to include discussions with elected members, key local area officers from health, education and social care, and meetings with leaders of early year settings, schools and colleges, and specialist services.
- Visits will be made to a range of providers and services. These visits will not inspect the provision but focus on their understanding and participation in meeting the area's responsibilities.
- Inspectors will look at children and young people's files to contribute to their evaluations.

Proposed inspection arrangements

- There will be a narrative evaluation report following the inspection. There will not be an overall effectiveness grade.
- Some local areas will need to produce an action plan.
- There will be follow-up inspection activity where this is appropriate.
- As appropriate, the findings of the area inspection will contribute to other CQC and Ofsted inspection activity.

Proposal 4

A wide range of ways will be used during the inspection to obtain the views of disabled children and young people and those who have special educational needs, and their parents and carers.

If you have a comments please use #4

Proposed inspection arrangements

- There will be a strong emphasis on gathering the views of young people, and parents and carers, involving:
 - Meetings during visits to early years settings, schools and colleges.
 - Meeting with established parent and carer groups
 - Meeting with any reference groups established by the local area.
 - A webinar for parents and carers during the inspection.

How to give your views

Main consultation:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OfstedSEND>

Young People's version:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YPViews>

Thank you