

16 December 2014

Sent by email

Dear Headteacher,

Revised Ofsted inspection framework of boarding and residential special schools consultation

On the 5 December 2014 Ofsted launched a consultation regarding proposed revisions to the framework for the inspection of boarding and residential provision in schools in England. These changes are due to be implemented in April 2015.

Ofsted is consulting on the revised evaluation criteria used on inspection; whether they accurately describe good and outstanding provision and whether they address the diverse needs of all children who attend boarding and residential special schools. We are also consulting on the introduction of limiting judgements.

Ofsted is also introducing a number of changes to the existing framework which are not subject to consultation. This includes introducing the 'requires improvement judgment' which will replace the 'adequate judgment.' 'Good' will be established as the minimum benchmark for all boarding and residential schools.

We are seeking the widest possible range of views to ensure that the revised framework takes into account the needs and circumstances of all those who have an interest or expertise in boarding and residential schools. We are particularly keen to hear your views, children and young people, staff and parents/carers and any commissioning services. Please encourage all these stakeholders to respond to the consultation.

The full details of the consultation and the online responses survey can be accessed here: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/inspection-of-boarding-and-residential-provision-in-schools

The closing date for the consultation is **16 January 2015.**

Consultation events

To further gain your input and hear your views on the proposed changes, we would also like to invite you or a nominated colleague to a consultation event. This will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about the proposed framework changes, feedback your views about proposals and discuss these with Ofsted representatives.

The consultation events will be taking place at the follow times and locations:

12/01/2014 - Central York (11am to 1pm)

13/01/2015 – Central London (11am to 1pm)

14/01/2015 – Central London (2pm to 4pm)

Each event will last for two hours and is **free**, however Ofsted cannot refund any travel costs or any other associated costs of attending the event. Please note that due to limited spaces, we can only allocate one place per school. To register for a place at one of the events please complete our online registration form here:

<http://ofstedevent.eventbrite.co.uk>

Once registered, you will be emailed a ticket which you will need to bring with you to the event. Please note we will inform you by email of the exact venue location closer to the seminar date. You will **not** receive this at the time of registering. If you have any problems registering please email: socialcare@ofsted.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Martin
HMI
Ofsted