

ASSISTED SELF-EVALUATION: SCHOOLS WITH SECONDARY DEPARTMENTS

HM Inspectorate of Education have introduced a new proportionate model for school inspections which is designed to articulate closely with the terms of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000 which requires education authorities to endeavour to secure improvement in the quality of education in their schools. The framework for improvement and the mechanisms for planning and reporting on progress in doing so are also detailed in the Act.

The proportionate model is intended to ensure that resources are targeted to support and challenge schools in their efforts to achieve continuous improvement.

As part of the inspection process, the local authority is expected to provide evidence-based assessments of where the school perceives itself to be in relation to the quality indicators as published in HGIOS (2002 edition). It is therefore essential that all schools are actively participating in meaningful and rigorous self-evaluation which is evidenced-based.

The Education Department Quality Improvement Policy and Procedures makes provision for Authority-Assisted Self Evaluation to be carried out. Such Assisted Self-Evaluations can be a key element in the authority's participation in proportionate inspection procedures.

A programme has been devised and is in operation in schools with secondary departments, broadly related to the anticipated pattern of HMIE inspections of schools.

Assisted self-evaluations will be in addition to the regular visits by link officers and the review visits by Heads of Service, but can replace Head of Service review meetings in that particular year.

A report, which will be confidential to the staff of the school and to the Directorate and Quality improvement team will normally be produced within six weeks of the evaluation. An action plan will then be produced by the school, and will be incorporated in school development planning processes. A follow-up visit will be paid to the school six months after the publication of the report, and progress with the action plan will be further monitored as part of the usual quality improvement procedures.

ASSISTED SELF-EVALUATION PROGRAMME

School	Last HMIE inspection Report	Proposed Assisted Self-Evaluation	Action Plan
Nicolson Institute	1988	March 2004	May 2004
Castlebay	March 1998	August 2004	December 2004
Sgoil Lionacleit	May 1997	October 2004	December 2004
Sgoil nan Loch	N/A	March 2005	August 2005
Lionel	September 1999	June 2005	September 2005
Daliburgh	January 2000	March 2006	May 2006
Paible	October 2000	June 2006	September 2006
Shawbost	October 2001	March 2007	May 2007
Sir E Scott	September 2002	September 2007	November 2007
Back	February 2003	March 2008	May 2008
Bayble	August 2003	September 2008	November 2008

OUTCOME

Schools are actively participating in meaningful and rigorous evidence-based self-evaluation.

The educational experience of pupils is enhanced by the accurate identification of needs and the targeting of resources and developments to meet these needs.