



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

Department of Education and Children's Services

What is Validated Self-Evaluation (VSE)?

VSE is a voluntary process which aims to support and challenge the work of education authorities to deliver and improve the quality of provision and outcomes they offer for learners.

It involves a partnership between the education authority and HMIE in which HMIE apply their knowledge of educational delivery and expertise in evaluation in order to extend, challenge and support the education authority's own self-evaluation processes.

This enables HMIE to affirm (or otherwise) the outcomes of the self-evaluation and strengthen the process.

VSE acknowledges that the responsibility for improving services and outcomes lies with the education authority. It recognises that self-evaluation is increasingly well-embedded across the Scottish educational landscape and that high quality self-evaluation can lead to continuous improvement for learners and the achievement of excellence in practice and provision.

In summary, VSE seeks to:

- build the capacity of education authorities to evaluate their own performance and improve the quality of services and outcomes for learners;
- promote and develop good practice and best value in education authorities;
- provide information to Scottish Ministers and the public on the quality of provision in education authorities;
- offer independent evaluation and validation; and
- contribute to a reduction in external scrutiny at service level where possible, taking account of risk, and provide high quality and robust information for the shared risk assessment process.