

Peterborough Diocese – Board of Education

Denominational Inspections – Appeals

For full documentation on the National Society (Church of England) Inspection framework consult the Diocesan Education web site. Please note that schools in the Diocese of Peterborough are expected to use the Peterborough Diocesan self evaluation toolkit in preparation for the inspection.

1. Judgements from an inspection

All inspectors used by Peterborough Diocese have undergone a full training period. Much of the initial and on-going training is focused on ensuring sound judgements set against national standards. The inspector will make individual judgements against each of the main questions asked in the inspection. These judgements are made on a 4 point scale. The descriptors used to guide inspectors to judgements for each question are shown in the denominational inspection framework document available on the Diocesan Education web site. **Please remember that the inspector will make judgements on what is gleaned from documentation and what is seen on the day of inspection. A school has a duty to ensure that an inspector sees the best that a school can offer pupils.**

2. Appealing against the outcome of an inspection

If a school wishes to appeal against a judgement made during an inspection, the chair of governors is required to lodge an appeal with the Diocesan Director of Education within 5 working days of the receipt of the draft report from the inspector (for review by the school). This letter (e-mail) should clearly identify which judgements are being challenged and the reasons for the challenge. The challenge will halt the publication of the report until the appeal has been heard.

3. School appeals against the judgements

The National Society will assign an appeal inspector to review the outcome of the school's inspection. This appeal inspector will arrange a one day visit to the school during which the inspector will:

- review the documentation provided by the school for inspection (as provided to the original inspector)
- review of the evidence and judgements from the inspection
- review the appeal submission from the school
- report the outcomes of the review with the headteacher and chair of governors.

4. Appeal upheld

If the appeal inspector's judgement is that the grades originally given are an inaccurate representation of the outcomes for the school then the inspection report will be amended by the appeal inspector in discussion with the original inspector and sent to the school for publication.

5. Appeal overturned

If the appeal inspector's judgement is that the grades originally given are deemed accurate then the original inspector's report will be sent to the school for publication.

6. Inspectors' review

All inspectors undergo an annual review. The outcome of any school appeal will be considered at the inspector's review meeting alongside the school and inspector's feedback forms. Any inspector making inaccurate judgements will be advised on necessary development.