

### Ofsted update Autumn 2020

Steve shared the slides outlining the plans for the interim visits that Ofsted are undertaking this term - these will be available on the website shortly (check out Support and Advice - Ofsted section). I have also uploaded another document shared by a colleague who is part of the PA and SEND MAT network called 'Ofsted monitoring visits - areas to consider' in case it is useful. The unions have challenged Ofsted on the term 'visits' and they have confirmed that they are a type of inspection. However, the key points are:

- The visits enable leaders to identify their successes and challenges through objective discussion with inspectors
- The visits will not result in any evaluation or graded judgement of a school or change a school's current Ofsted inspection grade
- The visits will not provide any evidence or lines of enquiry for later inspection events, once routine inspection resumes.

I also listened to Dan Owen (lead HMI) talk about the visits this week. He was clear that they are interested in what is happening NOW, not judging what you did last term. The visits are designed to be supportive and discursive and you do not need to provide any:

- Planning
- Documents
- Preparation
- Lesson visits

And this will not alter your window for your next scheduled Ofsted visit.

All inspectors have undergone training on remote learning and have undertaken a literature review so they are prepared. The sort of basic questions they will ask are:

- Does the child/children have the equipment they need to access remote learning? Internet access? Do your materials use up too much of their data? (i.e. have you considered all parts of accessibility)
- What changes to content and sequencing have you made as a consequence of going to remote, if any? (Obviously things are better taught face to face!)

I asked if they would be asking the question about provision for pupils with medical needs/those who are shielding and he confirmed they would BUT not making a judgement on the school.

He was also asked about inspection of the single central register - he replied that they will ask about any changes to the register since the last time you were inspected and will then check that people have had the appropriate checks.

Don't forget you can request a deferral as we continue to be uncertain about local circumstances.