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# **The Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)**

**A briefing for those schools likely  
to be inspected in 2022/2023**



# SIAMS Paused

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Following the announcement of the death of Her Majesty The Queen, all SIAMS inspection activity is currently suspended.

The notification of inspections will recommence from Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Inspections will recommence from Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September.



# Notification Process

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## Notification:

- ❖ Schools will be given 5 working days notice
- ❖ Soon after notification, the inspector will contact the school to speak with the Headteacher
- ❖ They will ask for any summary self-evaluation and other initial sources of evidence
- ❖ The inspector will discuss the timetable and ask the Headteacher to begin drafting it.

Further details: [SIAMS information for schools](#) *September 2022*



# 5 days prior to inspection

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- ❖ Inspector will write a PIP which will include the LOE using evidence provided by the school, as well as the school website and other publicly available information.
- ❖ PIP emailed 48 hours prior to the inspection.
- ❖ The day before the inspection the inspector will telephone the Headteacher to clarify their understanding of the LOE and finalise the timetable.

# The inspection day

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The inspector will generally arrive about 8.00am and will aim to leave the school premises by 6.00pm.

They will undertake a range of inspection activities which will often include:

- ❖ Meetings with different groups from the school community including leaders, governors, pupils, staff and parents.
- ❖ A learning walk
- ❖ RE work scrutiny
- ❖ Collective worship

# Publication of report

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- ❖ Within 10 working days of the inspection you will receive a draft report for a factual accuracy check
- ❖ The school is expected to respond within 24 hours
- ❖ Once finalised it will be published on the 'A Church Near You' website and LDBS website.

# What will be inspected?

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**One single inspection question:**

*How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?*

# Single inspection question

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- ❖ **Vision:** How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision...
- ❖ **Provision:** ...established and promoted by leadership at all levels...
- ❖ **Impact:** ...in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

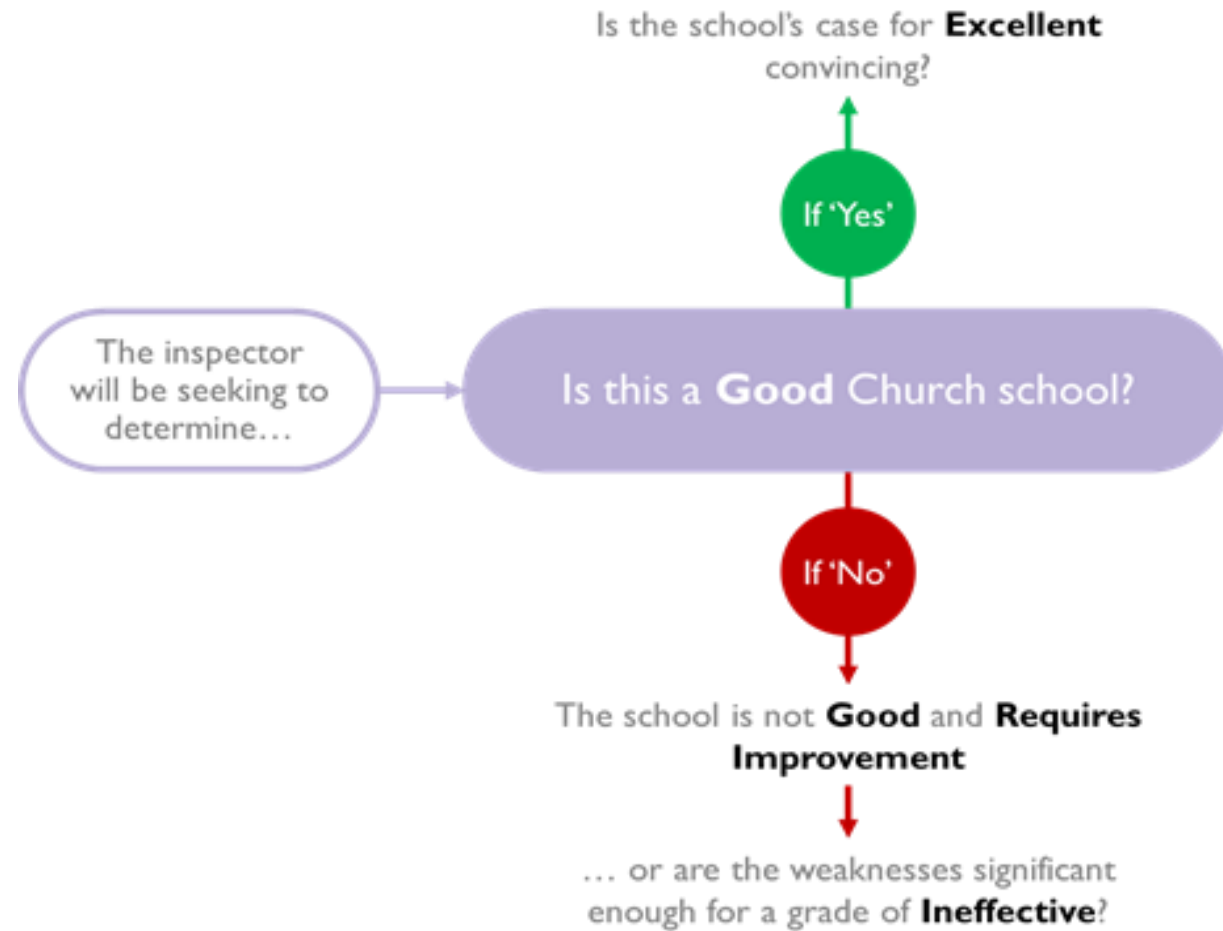
# One single question inspected through seven strands

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- Strand 1 Vision and Leadership
- Strand 2 Wisdom Knowledge Skills
- Strand 3 Character Development:  
Hope, Aspiration, Courageous Advocacy
- Strand 4 Community and Living Well Together
- Strand 5 Dignity and Respect
- Strand 6 The impact of collective worship
- Strand 7 The effectiveness of religious education



# Approach to inspection



# Key preparation

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- ❖ Be familiar with the [schedule](#)
- ❖ Have the [summary self-evaluation](#) completed and ready to send
- ❖ Update your website
- ❖ Ensure key policies reflect your vision

# Self-Evaluation

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- ❖ Self-evaluation is not statutory.
- ❖ However, inspectors need to start with some information on the school and a more accurate inspection is likely to ensue if the school provides pertinent information at the outset.

# Self-Evaluation

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- ❖ Schools are NOT expected to produce lengthy self-evaluation documents for an inspector, and they will not commit to reading them.
- ❖ As an ongoing process to inform the school itself, any format or length is fine. See [ongoing self-evaluation template](#).
- ❖ For the purpose of sharing with an inspector, a document no longer than 2 sides of A4 is requested. See [summary self-evaluation template](#).

# Importance of impact

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- ❖ The emphasis should be on **impact** and not provision.
- ❖ Schools should NOT be asked/encouraged to grade each strand in their self-evaluation.
- ❖ The point is to collate the impact that demonstrates that the school is a Good Church school.
- ❖ The school is no longer required to make a case for excellence. The inspector will make that judgement during the inspection process.

# For consideration ...

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- ❖ Is everyone familiar with vision, including Governors?
- ❖ Can governors articulate the vision with passion and recent practical illustration?
- ❖ How do you monitor impact of your vision? How does this result in the flourishing of all?
- ❖ How did the vision shape your approach to the pandemic?

# Excellence

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**Excellence is likely to emerge from the coming together of three foundational principles:**

- ❖ Deep, Christian-vision-driven thought and discussion
- ❖ Innovative, exemplary, and courageous action
- ❖ Life-changing, transformational impact.

# Excellence

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- ❖ Training has always attempted to emphasise that Excellent does not simply equate to ‘very good’.
- ❖ Excellent does not have grade descriptors. It is not a tick list. It is entirely context-specific.
- ❖ It must describe a school that is deeply and comprehensively rooted in a theology for education.
- ❖ It should indicate a learning community for which the ‘Good’ grade descriptors are insufficient.



# Excellence

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Excellence comes from a school's deep understanding of itself, of its community, of its all-encompassing theology for education.

*Excellent should be strikingly normal yet quite extraordinary.*





# SIAMS training for school leaders

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**SIAMS: A BRIEF OVERVIEW FOR SCHOOL LEADERS**

**THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**2:00 PM - 3:30 PM - ZOOM**

This free session will provide an opportunity for school leaders to refresh their knowledge and understanding of the SIAMS schedule. It will also provide a helpful introduction to SIAMS for any leaders new to Church schools.



# Training available to support SIAMS 2022/23

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We will be running the following courses this academic year to support SIAMS development in schools:

- ✝ **SIAMS: A Brief Overview for School Leaders -13<sup>th</sup> October 2022**
- ✝ **Leading RE in the Primary School – for recently appointed leaders -19<sup>th</sup> October 2022**
- ✝ **SIAMS: A Flourishing Church of England School - 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022**
- ✝ **Delivering High Quality Collective Worship in the Primary School -25<sup>th</sup> January 2023**
- ✝ **Theology101: Introduction to the Main Theological Concepts of Christianity - 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023**
- ✝ **Developing Children’s Spirituality in the Primary School - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

