

TO: ALL NORFOLK HEADTEACHERS AND
CHAIRS OF GOVERNORS

Your Ref:

Date: 18 July 2013

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Dear Headteacher and Chairs of Governors

**Inspection of Local Authority (LA) arrangements to support school improvement
10–14 June 2013**

The summative letter has arrived and will be published later today. It is attached for your reference and is also being sent pre-publication to LA staff and County Councillors.

The new framework for inspection of LA 'arrangements' helpfully defines the role of the LA in supporting school improvement. It confirms that our role extends to all publicly funded schools and providers including Academies and Free Schools.

The framework leaves to schools and groups of schools the responsibility for undertaking their own improvement but ascribes to the LA the function of support and challenge. Clearly, if the impact of our support and challenge has not been sufficient to raise education standards quickly over time then our arrangements cannot be fully effective. They need to be sharper and more rapid as set out in our refreshed approach 'A Good School for Every Norfolk Learner'.

A focused action plan that will deal with the areas for improvement in this letter will be developed with partners, notably with the Headteacher and Governor associations. The plan will be monitored by the Education Service Improvement Board (ESIB).

I look forward to our continuing work with you in improving educational standards for Norfolk's children and young people.

Yours sincerely



Gordon Boyd
Assistant Director, Education Strategy and Commissioning
Children's Services, Norfolk County Council