

Using inspection for improvement: a conference to support your development

Ofsted inspection frameworks identify what makes a good or outstanding school. They reflect our best understanding of the key elements of effective practice. Many headteachers have told me they are keen to use the new school inspection framework, introduced this month, to help them do their jobs even more effectively. To support them in doing this, I have organised a conference, not only to promote understanding of the new framework but also to explore ways in which it might be used to support greater improvement in all schools, particularly in teaching and learning. The conference will therefore be of interest to all schools, including outstanding schools no longer subject to routine inspection.

The conference, aimed at headteachers and your senior staff, but also of interest to others involved in school improvement, will be held on Friday 3 February 2012 at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Lambeth. It will give ready access to numerous experts, all of whom have experience as senior HMI. Many of them have been involved in developing the new framework. Each has a passion for education and is an associate in my new company, Christine Gilbert Associates (CGA).

The conference programme consists of a number of presentations and opportunities for discussion on the new framework but with an emphasis on using it to accelerate improvement. The first session considers each of the core elements of the framework and has a particular focus on perceptive and reflective teaching and its impact on learning. This is followed by a presentation on the expectations that have been built into the framework for the teaching of reading and of pupils' literacy skills by the time they leave primary and secondary schools. Finally, there is a session on the expectations for better self-evaluation. Considerable time has been built in throughout the day for small group discussions with experienced inspectors.

Attendance is limited to about 80 so that participants can have all their questions answered, either in small groups or in the plenary sessions. I shall chair the conference and, together with expert speakers and inspector facilitators, I will be available for informal discussions over coffee and lunch.

If you would like to attend, full details and joining instructions are available at: www.cgilbertassociates.com.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address above if you have any queries at all.

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