

#IMPROVINGACCOUNTABILITY

IMPROVING SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES WITH THE CURRENT SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM?

THE CURRENT ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM:

1. Limits ambition
2. Incentivises self-interest
3. Deters talented staff from working in more deprived communities
4. Narrows the curriculum and encourages teaching to the test
5. Diverts attention from teaching and learning
6. Drives good people from the profession
7. Provides less assurance of standards

THE COMMISSION'S KEY RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY

PUPIL PERFORMANCE DATA

1. Comparative performance data should be used by Ofsted to inform judgements of school effectiveness.
2. The DfE should use a 'requires improvement' judgement as the trigger for funded support and as a replacement for floor and coasting standards.



INSPECTION

3. Ofsted should adopt a new role, focused on identifying failure and providing stronger diagnostic insight for schools that are struggling.
4. The DfE should end the exemption from inspection for previously 'outstanding' schools and commit Ofsted to inspect all schools on a transparent cycle of inspection.
5. The 'outstanding' judgement should be replaced with a more robust system for identifying specific excellence within the sector, to increase the take-up of highly effective, evidence-based practice.
6. Ofsted should commission research to determine the format and nature of inspection required, in order to provide reliable judgements and reciprocal benefits for schools.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

7. Existing peer review programmes should be evaluated to identify characteristics of effective practice in order to develop national accreditation arrangements.
8. An invitation should be extended to the Chartered College of Teaching, through the Leadership Development Advisory Group, to produce alternative national standards for head teachers that better reflect the professional behaviours, practice and knowledge required for achieving excellence.
9. The DfE should extend the career progression strategy to support recently appointed head teachers in the critical first years of headship.



Do you agree with the recommendations in the report?

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