

Spring 2025, v3.2 Change log

Inspection handbook

- Paragraph 6 **updated** to reflect the change to the way Ofsted recognises the limitations of Ofsted inspectors in schools with a religious character (the historical protocol that formerly dealt with this has been superseded).
- Paragraph 15, **updated** to make clear that inspection teams going into RO schools should contain a member of the team who has had experience of working in a RO school
- Paragraph 17 **updated** to clarify the expectations around the use of video conferencing software for the longer conversation between the lead inspector and the headteacher.
- Paragraph 19, footnote **added** to clarify the role of inspectors in relation to establishing compliance in relation to diocesan directives.
- Paragraph 37, footnote **added** to clarify the role of inspectors in relation to establishing compliance in relation to diocesan directives.
- Paragraph 57, footnote **added** to clarify the role of inspectors in relation to establishing compliance in relation to diocesan directives.
- Paragraph 79 **updated** to cover the new approach to the Post-Inspection Evaluation for Schools (PIE-S) and Inspectors (PIE-I).
- Paragraph 82 **updated** to clarify the means by which compliance with diocesan directives is determined.
- CLM2 Grade descriptors **updated** for the bullet on R(S)HE to remove reference to statutory compliance (something that CSI inspectors will not inspect).
- Paragraph 165 **updated** to correct the timeline for the establishment of the Gaudete Trust and to clarify its status as a public juridical person.
- Paragraph 166 **updated** to clarify the role of the Religious Order in relation to its schools, and which functions properly belong to them.
- Paragraph 167 **updated** to include a definition of 'charism' and 'Associate Schools' (schools no longer under RO trusteeship but which are still animated by an RO charism)
- Paragraph 172 **updated** to clarify the responsibility of the diocese to establish who the contact is for each of the Religious Orders with schools in their diocese.
- Paragraph 173 **amended** to make clear that the draft inspection report must be shared with the superior of the Religious Order or their nominee.
- Paragraph 174 **modified** to clarify the place of the visitation report as part of an inspection evidence base.
- Paragraph 175 **updated** to make clear that the CSED is optional, not a requirement.
- Paragraph 176 and 177 **added**, to clarify the importance of including RO trustees in the discussions around governance and the responsibilities of dioceses and

Religious Orders in relation to post-inspection support for schools. All subsequent paragraphs renumbered.

- Appendix 2: *Protocols for Ofsted Inspections of Catholic schools and sixth form colleges in England* removed. Appendix 1.2 *Mutual Relations between Religious Orders, Dioceses and the CES in the Service of Catholic Education*, **renumbered** as Appendix 2.
- Appendix 6.2 **updated** to reflect new protocol for deferrals in the cases where CSI and Ofsted inspections coincide.
- Appendix 6.3: *Protocol for when Ofsted and section 48 inspections are scheduled to occur concurrently* **added**
- Appendix 7: *What compliance with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales requires in relation to religious education* **updated** to make the language consistent with the RED. **Renumbered** to Appendix 7.1
- Appendix 7.2 *Checking compliance with the formally promulgated directives ('additional requirements') of a diocesan bishop* **added** to clarify the role of inspectors in checking the compliance of a school against diocesan requirements.
- **Added** Template 02.3 Diocesan directives – details for inspectors
- **Added** Template 03.2 Checklist for inspecting Religious Order schools
- **Added** Template 03.3 Notification to the Superior for a school in Religious Order trusteeship
- **Renumbered** Template 05.2 to Template 05.3 – Establishing lines of enquiry
- **Added new** Template 05.2 Diocesan compliance – self-evaluation supplement
- Template 14.1 **updated** to reflect the new layout and approach for the Post-Inspection Evaluation for Schools (PIE-S)
- Template 14.2 **added** as a common Post-Inspection Evaluation for Inspectors (PIE-I), old Template 14.2 renumbered as 14.3
- Template 14.3 **renumbered** and **updated** to cover the issuing of both kinds of electronic post inspection evaluation (PIE-S and PIE-I)

Comparative Grade Descriptors

- CLM 2.9 **updated** to remove reference to statutory requirements to make it consistent with the updated inspection handbook.