



An Update on SIAMS

(Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools)

Diocese of Chichester
Governors' Conference
19 October 2013



SIAMS Inspection Framework

Why has the framework changed?

To address the issues:

- *Mind the Gap* – Ofsted and Section 48
- *More than Caring and Sharing* – ‘Outstanding’ judgements
- *Clear distinction* - between good and outstanding



SIAMS Inspection Framework

Why has the framework changed?

To raise aspirations:

- Ensuring Christian values are explicit
- Ensuring the Christian (Anglican) nature of worship
- Securing the effectiveness of RE – especially the teaching of Christianity
- Requiring school leaders and governors to articulate and embed a distinctive Christian vision



SIAMS Inspections

What is the same?

- The four key (now called CORE) questions:
 1. How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners?
 2. What is the impact of collective worship on the school community?
 3. How effective is the religious education?
 4. How effective are the leadership and management of the school as a church school?
- VA schools are inspected on all FOUR core questions and VC schools are inspected on THREE - Questions 1, 2 and 4
- All schools are given an overall effectiveness grade



SIAMS Inspections

What is different?

- More focussed overall effectiveness section – including the grade from the previous inspection
- Evaluation (supplementary) statements/questions for each of the core questions
- Achievement, attendance and exclusion is included
- SIAMS inspections are no longer triggered by Ofsted – for outstanding/good church schools every 6 years, for less than good church schools every 4 years



SIAMS Inspections

What is different?

Added emphasis:

- Distinctive characteristics of Christian worship
- Governors' role in Christian vision and strategic planning
- Focus on the teaching of Christianity
- Explicitly Christian understanding of shared human values



Four Key Documents

- The SIAMS inspection framework
- The SIAMS inspection evaluation schedule
- The Diocesan inspections policy
- The SIAMS toolkit

All are on the diocesan website www.chichester.anglican.org/schools

(Additional resources will be available on the website to help schools with SIAMS)



The Toolkit: How do you use it?

Three key tasks when using the toolkit:

- Highlight the 'best fit' grade descriptors
- Make an overall judgement for the core question and list the main evidence of impact to support this judgement
- Identify the key strengths and areas for development

The toolkit is a resource for church school self-evaluation and strategic planning – it should be used and updated regularly. It is very helpful to have the core questions as agenda items at governors' meetings.



SIAMS Inspection Framework

The overall effectiveness of church schools:

As well as Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development and wellbeing, overall effectiveness should take into account the achievement of learners. Evidence for this can come from:

- the Ofsted report on the school if it is recent (within 12 months of the SIAMS inspection)
- an analysis of learners' current achievement produced by the school
- external analyses of the school's performance provided by the DfE, RAISE on line, the local authority or the diocese
- any other relevant school data such as post-16 provision, exclusion information, attendance data, attainment on entry, mobility of cohorts



SIAMS Inspection Framework

The Christian Character Five areas which include:

- how well the Christian character contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and wellbeing of all learners, regardless of their ability or background
- the contribution of religious education to the Christian character of the school



SIAMS Inspection Framework

Collective Worship

Eight areas which include:

- the extent to which collective worship is distinctively Christian and central to the life of the school community
- how well collective worship enables the participants to develop an understanding of Jesus Christ and of the Christian understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- how well collective worship develops personal spirituality within the school community through a range of experiences



SIAMS Inspection Framework

Leadership and Management: Five areas which include:

- the extent to which school leaders* articulate an explicit Christian vision that has an impact on: standards of achievement, the distinctively Christian character of the school and the well-being of all the whole school community
- the extent to which school leaders* secure the impact of this vision through evaluation and strategic planning

* This includes all governors



SIAMS Inspection Framework

Some questions for discussion:

1. What are the implications of the new SIAMS framework for your school's development as a church school?
2. Looking at the core question on Leadership and Management – how might the changes in the SIAMS framework affect the way you undertake your self-evaluation as a church school?