Inspection of Local Authority: Questionnaire for centrally-deployed education authority staff

Introduction

HM Inspectors from Education Scotland will shortly be undertaking an inspection of the progress made by your local authority in improving learning, raising attainment and narrowing the poverty-related attainment gap.

We would like you to give us your views in relation to your own experiences. Your views are important to us because they will form part of the evidence we collect during the inspection.

This survey is being undertaken and analysed by staff in Education Scotland who are conducting the inspection. The findings will be reported in aggregate form only and no comments would ever be attributed to you or your establishment in our reporting.

Your responses will be gathered using SmartSurvey. We will then store your responses confidentially on secure servers for a period of five years. Your personal information will not be shared with any other third party organisation and will only be used for the purpose it was obtained. Our privacy notice explains in more detail how we will use the information you provide when you complete this questionnaire.

In all cases, by the education authority and staff we mean the department which is responsible for running education services and the staff who are employed centrally to support the services. By Elected Members, we refer to the local politicians, in particular, those who have links with education.

Please look over the questions and let us know what you think by selecting the answer that most represents your view.

Section 1: Vision and Leadership

1. There is a shared commitment to improving learning, raising attainment and closing the poverty-related attainment gap amongst staff in the education authority.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

2. There is a shared understanding of the aims and principles of the Scottish Attainment Challenge amongst staff across the education authority.

Strongly agreeAgree

- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

3. I have good opportunities to be involved in decision-making processes which are leading to improved outcomes for children and families.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

4. The education authority is well led.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly Disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

5. Elected members demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the quality of education across our Council.



Not applicable

6. The education authority actively promotes equity in our use of resources and promotion of improvement.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

7. Senior managers take a high profile in joint planning and working with other services, external partners and agencies to ensure equity.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly Disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

8. Senior managers have established a clear vision for the education authority which has been shared successfully.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly Disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

9. We use data effectively to understand what is working well and what needs improved.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

10. I have good opportunities for professional learning which give me confidence that I can use data effectively.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

11. I am confident that the education authority uses available resources effectively to promote and support improvement in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable
- 12. The governance structure within the education authority is clear and transparent.
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable
- 13. I have a good understanding of how decisions about education are made across the education authority.
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

14. The education authority has robust systems for managing finance to improve outcomes for learners.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

Section 2: Outcomes and Impact

15. I am confidently able to support improvement in literacy.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

16. I am confidently able to support improvement in numeracy.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

17. I am confidently able to support improvement in health and wellbeing.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
 - Not applicable

18. I have had recently engaged in good opportunities for professional learning to support improvements in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

19. I have good opportunities to work collaboratively with other local authority services to support improvements in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

20. There is effective liaison with external agencies and organisations to ensure equity for children, young people and families.



Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

21. There is a partnership approach to supporting children, young people and families.

Strongly	agree
----------	-------

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

22. We are proactive in taking steps to ensure poverty is not a barrier to success in our Council area.



- Agree
- ___ Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

23. I am confident in my ability to support improvements in family learning.

- Agree
- Disagree

Strongly disagree

- Don't know
- Not applicable

24. The education authority uses data effectively to demonstrate our progress in raising attainment.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

25. The education authority uses data effectively to demonstrate our progress in closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

26. The education authority effectively promotes and supports schools to engage families in improving learning.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

27. I am fully informed about procedures relating to child protection and safeguarding and ensure that the school/establishment implements relevant guidelines and training

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

28. Finally which of the following best describes your role in the education authority?

- Administrative staff
- Support Officers
- Senior Officers: Ed. Management Team & officers
- Senior Management Team
- Other (please specify):

Other comments

29. If you would like to expand on any of the answers you have given or have any other additional comments you may wish to make about the work of the education authority, please complete the box below.

Inspection of Local Authority: Questionnaire for Chairs of Parent Councils

Introduction

HM Inspectors from Education Scotland will shortly be undertaking an inspection of the progress made by your local authority in improving learning, raising attainment and narrowing the poverty-related attainment gap.

We would like you to give us your views in relation to your own experiences. Your views are important to us because they will form part of the evidence we collect during the inspection.

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In all cases, by the education authority and staff we mean the department which is responsible for running education services and the staff who are employed centrally to support the services. By Elected Members, we refer to the local politicians, in particular, those who have links with education.

Please look over the questions and let us know what you think by selecting the answer that most represents your view.

Section 1: Vision and Leadership

1. The education authority actively promotes and supports improving learning in our school.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

2. The education authority actively promotes and supports raising attainment in our school.

Stror	ngly a	agree
-------	--------	-------

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

3. The education authority is having a positive impact on closing the poverty-related attainment gap in our school.

Strongly	agree

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

4. The Parent Council is actively involved in supporting the school to evaluate its work and in making plans for improvement.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

5. The Parent Council is well informed about the aims of the Scottish Attainment Challenge.

- Strongly agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

6. The Parent Council is actively involved in decisions about financial management in our school.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

7. The education authority is good at letting the Parent Council know about new initiatives to improve education.

Strongly agree

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable
- 8. Elected Members demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the quality of education.
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

9. The Parent Council knows about the education authority's priorities for improvement.

- Strongly agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

10. Through consultation and participation the Parent Council has a chance to influence the aims and plans for education in our school area.

- Strongly agree
- ___ Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

11. The education authority provides good opportunities for parents/carers to access family and adult learning.

Strongly agree

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

12. The education authority is well led.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

Section 2: Outcomes and Impact

13. The education authority's is ensuring our children can make the best possible progress in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

\Box	Strongly agree
	Agree
	Disagree
	Strongly disagree
	Don't know
	Not applicable
	Parents/families can see how our children are improving their learning and raising their nment.
	Strongly agree
	Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

15. If parents raise an issue of concern about their child with schools or centrally deployed staff, they take appropriate action.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

16. Different services and organisations (e.g. social services, health services) work together effectively with the school to help children and families with a focus on improving life chances.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

17. The education authority actively ensures that poverty is not a barrier to success in our school.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

18. The education authority ensures all children are able to access the available opportunities for achievement for example, in sport, music and cultural activities and outdoor learning.

Strongly	agree
----------	-------

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable
- 19. The Parent Council understands how our school uses resources to ensure equity.
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

20. The education authority promotes equality and inclusion as high priorities within our school.

- Strongly agree
 Agree
 Disagree
 Strongly disagree
 Don't know
- Not applicable

21. The education authority promotes the voice of young people and takes account of their views.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

22. Parents/carers and families feel that they are treated fairly by the education authority regardless of their needs and backgrounds.

Strongly agree

- Agree
- Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

Other comments

23. If you would like to expand on any of the answers you have given or have any other additional comments you may wish to make about the work of the education department, please complete the box below.

Inspection of Local Authority: Questionnaire for Elected Members

Introduction

HM Inspectors from Education Scotland will shortly be undertaking an inspection of the progress made by your local authority in improving learning, raising attainment and narrowing the povery-related attainment gap.

We would like you to give us your views in relation to your own experiences. Your views are important to us because they will form part of the evidence we collect during the inspection.

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Your responses will be gathered using SmartSurvey. We will then store your responses confidentially on secure servers for a period of five years. Your personal information will not be shared with any other third party organisation and will only be used for the purpose it was obtained. Our privacy notice explains in more detail how we will use the information you provide when you complete this questionnaire.

For each question please select the answer that most represents your view.

1. I have a good understanding of the Council's education strategies and improvement plans, especially in relation to attainment and wider achievement.

- Strongly agree
 Agree
 Disagree
 Strongly disagree
 - Don't know
 - Not applicable

2. I have a good understanding of the changing education environment, including legislative changes and policy developments (such as Curriculum for Excellence), and how they affect the Council.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

3. I have a good understanding of the impact of deprivation on educational attainment across the Council area and about how the Council is addressing this.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

4. I receive regular reports on the attainment of children and young people at various stages of their education that contain relevant information that help me scrutinise performance.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

5. I understand how initiatives funded by the Scottish Attainment Challenge and Pupil Equity Funding are aiming to close the poverty-related attainment gap in my council.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

6. I receive regular reports on Scottish Attainment Challenge and Pupil Equity Funding initiatives, which include progress against planned outputs and outcomes.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

7. When considering changes to future education budgets, council officers provide information setting out the potential impact on attainment of proposals to increase or reduce elements of education spend.

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

8. Senior officers and elected members work effectively together to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

9. Any complaints made about individual schools or about the education service are handled promptly and effectively.

Strongly agree
 Agree
 Disagree
 Strongly disagree
 Don't know

Not applicable

10. I have timely opportunities to access appropriate education-related training and development opportunities.

Strongly agree
 Agree
 Disagree
 Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

11. Overall, I have a good understanding of the main strengths and areas which need improved in terms of the Council's education provision.

- Strongly agree
 Agree
 Disagree
 Strongly disagree
 Don't know
 Not applicable

 12. Which of the following best describes your role?
 - Elected member (sitting on a committee with responsibility for education)
 - Elected member (general)
 - Other (please specify):

Other comments

13. If you would like to expand on any of the answers you have given or have any other additional comments you may wish to make about the work of the Education Department, please complete the box below.

Inspection of Local Authority: Questionnaire for headteachers Introduction

HM Inspectors from Education Scotland will shortly be undertaking an inspection of the progress made by your local authority in improving learning, raising attainment and narrowing the poverty-related attainment gap.

We would like you to give us your views in relation to your own experiences. Your views are important to us because they will form part of the evidence we collect during the inspection.

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In all cases, by the education authority and staff we mean the department which is responsible for running education services and the staff who are employed centrally to support the services. By Elected Members, we refer to the local politicians, in particular, those who have links with education.

Please look over the questions and let us know what you think by selecting the answer that most represents your view.

Section 1: Vision and Leadership

1. The Senior Management Team and staff in the education authority show a high level of commitment to improving education.

- Agree
- Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

2. The education authority makes a positive difference to improving the quality of learning and teaching.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

3. The education authority strategic plan is clearly focused on raising attainment for all learners.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

4. The education authority makes a positive difference to ensuring school staff understand the poverty-related attainment gap.

	Strongly agree
	Agree
\square	Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

5. The education authority Senior Management Team promote a culture of innovation and well-informed change.



Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

6. The education authority promotes and supports effective use of data to evaluate impact and outcomes.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

- Don't know
- Not applicable

7. The governance structure within the education authority is clear and transparent.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

8. I have a good understanding of how decisions about education are made across the education authority.

Strongly agree

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

9. The education auth	ority has robust syst	ems for managing fina	ance to improve outcomes fo	r
learners.				

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

10. I am fully aware of my responsibilities with regard to financial management.

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

11. The education authority supports me to be confident and effective in financial management.

	Strongly	agree
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- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- 📙 Don't know
 - Not applicable

12. I am confident that the Scottish Attainment Challenge funding is being used effectively to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

13. The education authority has encouraged me to develop a systematic approach to self-evaluation.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

14. The Senior Management Team and staff recognise my establishment's success.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

15. As a senior member of staff, I have opportunities to participate in decision making within the education authority.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- __ Don't know
- Not applicable

16. I receive feedback from appropriate directorate staff about how effectively I am leading my establishment.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

17. Elected Members demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the quality of education.

- Strongly agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

18. The education authority promotes partnership working with other services and organisations with a focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

19. The education authority is well led.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

Section 2: Outcomes and Impact

20. The education authority effectively promotes and supports improvement in literacy.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

21. The education authority effectively promotes and supports improvement in numeracy.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

22. The education authority effectively promotes and supports improvement in health and wellbeing.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

23. Staff have good opportunities for professional learning to support improvements in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

24. Staff have good opportunities to work collaboratively with other schools and other organisations to improve literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.



Don't know

Not applicable

25. The education authority uses data effectively to demonstrate our progress in raising attainment.



Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

- Don't know
- Not applicable

26. The education authority uses data effectively to demonstrate our progress in closing the poverty-related attainment gap.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

27. The education authority effectively promotes and supports schools to engage families in improving learning.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

28. I am fully informed about procedures relating to child protection and safeguarding and ensure that the school/establishment implements relevant guidelines and training.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

29. Finally which of the following best describes your role in the education authority?

- Head or Manager of Early Learning and Childcare Setting
- Primary Headteacher
- Secondary Headteacher
- Headteacher of all-through school
- Headteacher of special school
- Other (please specify):

Other comments

30. If you would like to expand on any of the answers you have given or have any other additional comments you may wish to make about the work of the education authority, please complete the box below.

Inspection of Local Authority: Questionnaire for partners

Introduction

HM Inspectors from Education Scotland will shortly be undertaking an inspection of the progress made by your local authority in improving learning, raising attainment and narrowing the poverty-related attainment gap.

We would like you to give us your views in relation to your own experiences. Your views are important to us because they will form part of the evidence we collect during the inspection.

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For each question please select the answer that most represents your view.

Section 1: Vision and leadership

1. The education authority actively promotes and supports improving learning.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

2. The education authority actively promotes and supports raising attainment.

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

3. The education authority is having a positive impact on closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

Strongly agree

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

4. The education authority senior management team promote a culture of innovation and wellinformed change.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

5. As partners we are actively involved in supporting the education authority to evaluate its work and in making plans for improvement.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

6. We are well informed about the aims of the Scottish Attainment Challenge.

Strongly	agree
----------	-------

- ____ Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

7. We are actively involved in education authority financial decisions to support delivery of the Scottish Attainment Challenge.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

8. The education authority promotes partnership working with other services and organisations with a focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

9. Elected Members demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the quality of education.

- Strongly agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

10. As partners we feel well informed about the education authority's priorities for improvement.

Strongly agree

____ Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

11. Through consultation and participation we have a chance to influence the aims and plans for education in our local authority area.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

12. The education authority provides good opportunities for parents/carers to access family and adult learning.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know
Not applicable

13. As partners we actively promote and support opportunities for parents/carers to access family and adult learning.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree

Don't know

Not applicable

14. The education authority is well led.



- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

Section 2: Outcomes and impact

15. The education authority is ensuring all children can make the best possible progress in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

	Strongly	agree
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- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

16. We are confident that children are improving their learning and raising their attainment as a result of our partnership working with the education authority.

Strongly agree
Agree

- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

17. If we raise an issue of concern about partnership working with education authority staff, they take appropriate action.



- ____ Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

18. Different services and organisations (e.g. social services, health services) work together effectively across the local authority to help children and families with a focus on improving life chances.



19. We have regular opportunities to engage in professional learning working alongside school staff and other services supporting children, young people and families.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

Not applicable

20. The education authority ensures all children are able to access the available opportunities for achievement for example, in sport, music and cultural activities and outdoor learning.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree
Strongly disagree

- Don't know
- Not applicable

21. As partners we understand how the education authority uses resources to ensure equity.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable
- 22. The education authority promotes equality and inclusion as high priorities.

Strongly agree
Agree

- Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- ___ Don't know
- Not applicable

23. We use data effectively to measure improvement in children's progress in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Strongly agree
Agree
Disagree

- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

24. The education authority promotes partnership and takes very good account of our views.



- ____ Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

25. Our organisation ensures all adults working with children and young people are informed about procedures relating to child protection and safeguarding.

Strongly agree

- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Not applicable

Comments

26. If you would like to expand on any of the answers you have given or have any other additional comments you may wish to make about the work of the education department, please complete the box below.