



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
EDUCATION OFFICE



Preparing for SIAMS and Excellence

# A different experience of inspection

## Pre-inspection

*'the monster of the dreaded SEF now happily consigned to history' HMCI Oct 18*

## SIAMS SEF becomes a SIAMS reflection

- a two page summary for inspectors
- school is free to create format using mind-maps, diagrams, hexagons
- Inspector accesses information from IDSR and website
- Internal self-evaluation remains essential

## During inspection day

- regular dialogue and updates with the headteacher
- visits to classrooms and work scrutiny jointly with leaders
- round table meetings with a variety of stakeholders at all levels
- frequent conversations with pupils

# Suggested Policies – use website

- Assessment and marking
- Behaviour/Anti-bullying
- Collective worship
- Equality and inclusion
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Religious education
- Relationships and Sex Education policy
- SEND
- SMSC and spiritual development

# Common misunderstandings

X SIAMS requires teachers to undertake additional work and ask pupils to work specifically for the inspection  
NO

X Only the vicar needs to understand the biblical underpinning of the vision  
NO

X Individual strands should be graded  
NO

X In RE the school must use a particular resource  
NO

X SIAMS expects to see a particular frequency and quantity of work in pupils' books  
NO

X The grade for collective worship depends on what the inspector sees on the day  
NO

X Excellent is about being very good  
NO

# A new approach to excellence THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND EDUCATION OFFICE

Excellence, like vision, is unique to the school's context



Excellence is rooted deep in a biblical understanding of the vision



so it looks different in every school

Excellence reveals extraordinary, innovative practice perhaps not seen before

It sets incredibly high expectations for Church schools

# Clues to excellence

Examples  
from  
the  
language  
of the  
exemplars

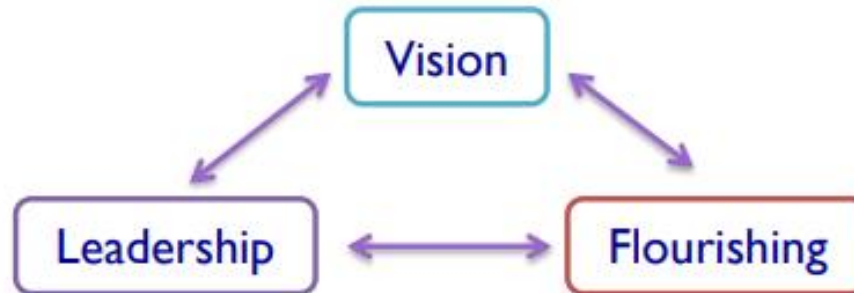


# Start thinking of excellence

as the innovative and imaginative work of a school  
→ working through its partnerships → attending to  
the specific needs of its local community → using the  
deeply Christian features of its vision → to bring  
about the exceptional flourishing of pupils and adults in  
the school → and move well beyond Good

# A report on a school graded excellent

- makes powerful connections



- inspires other schools
- makes it crystal clear how biblical teaching directly influences the actions leaders take
- excites you and makes you want to visit tomorrow