

2021-2022 Consolidated SIAMS Data (as of 08/04/22)

Grade	Pre-2018		2018 – 2020		Oct '21 – March '22	
Total schools inspected	2614		1427		123	
1	1057	40.4%	644	45.1%	28	22.8%
2	1350	51.6%	659	46.2%	91	74%
3	203	7.8%	118	8.3%	4	3.2%
4	4	0.2%	6	0.4%	0	0%

Commentary

- Total numbers of inspections since the national integration of SIAMS are lower than expected due to the disruption caused by Covid-19. Therefore, all post-national integration data is based on a small sample size.
- Numbers of the top grade (Outstanding/Excellent) have approximately halved since the national integration, although this should be treated with some caution as indicated above.
- We can't be certain of the reasons for this. Possibilities include
 - new clarification on Excellent
 - recently retrained inspector workforce
 - increased rigour and national consistency of QA protocols and practices under the national system
 - nature of inspector resignations during the suspension to inspection
- Total numbers of the combined Outstanding/Excellent and Good grades are approximately 5% higher since the national integration compared to all previous data.
- We can't be certain of the reasons for this. Possibilities include
 - positive impact of Christian vision in enabling people in school communities to flourish, despite/because of the difficulties related to Covid lockdowns
 - inspector 'generosity' in the Covid-context
 - more effective practice in/by schools as a result of diocesan training offers
- RI grades are, correspondingly, approximately 5% lower in the same period.
- There have been no Ineffective grades awarded since the national integration/post-Covid resumption of inspection.

October 2021 – April 2022 All Schools Break Down (based on 123 completed reports)

Grade	Overall Grade		Collective Worship		RE (VA only - 58)	
Total schools inspected	123		123		58	
1	28	22.8%	33	26.8%	25	43.1%
2	91	74%	87	70.7%	31	53.4%
3	4	3.2%	3	2.5%	2	3.5%
4	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Commentary

- Whilst the percentages of the two top grades for collective worship (97.5%) are roughly the same as for the overall grades (96.8%), the percentage of Excellent grades for collective worship is 4% higher at 26.8% than the equivalent for overall grades (22.8%).
- It is possible that excellence in collective worship in a school may have the broader impact of improving the overall grade to Good from what may otherwise have been RI.
- It is also possible that high quality collective worship is enabling some schools to be judged as RI when they may otherwise be judged as Ineffective.
- Analysis at individual report-level (not yet undertaken) would throw further light on this.

October 2021 – April 2022

VA Schools Detail (based on 58 reports)

Grade	Overall Grade		Collective Worship		RE	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
1	23	39.7%	24	41.4%	25	43.1%
2	34	58.6%	33	56.9%	31	53.5%
3	1	1.7%	1	1.7%	2	3.4%
4	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

October 2021 – April 2022

VC Schools Detail (based on 64 reports)

Grade	Overall Grade		Collective Worship	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
1	5	7.8%	8	12.5%
2	56	87.5%	54	84.4%
3	3	4.7%	2	3.1%
4	0	0%	0	0%

Commentary

- The most striking statistic here is the difference between overall grades of Excellent for VA schools (39.7%) and VC school (7.8%). Sample sizes are comparable, albeit small, at 58 and 64 schools respectively.
- Given that disparity, the combined top two categories for Overall Grade are more similar at 98.3% (VA) and 95.3% (VC), with VC still being the slightly lower figure.
- The percentage of schools graded RI is notably higher for VC schools as compared to VA, at 4.7% and 1.7% respectively.
- RE grades (VA only) are interesting. Whilst slightly more VA schools received a grade of Excellent for RE (43.1%) than they did for their Overall Grade (39.7%), when combined the percentage of the top two grades is then slightly lower for RE than for Overall at 96.6% compared to 98.3%.
- There are more RI grades for RE in VA schools than there are RI Overall Grades for VA schools – 3.4% as compared with 1.7%.
- Possible reasons for the above two points may include
 - high performing RE department led by an effective head of department/RE Lead in a potentially less ‘impressive’ broader Church school context
 - the breadth of the grade descriptors for Good in Strands 1-6 may tend to capture more schools at the top and bottom of the parameters than is the case with the equivalent grade descriptor for RE.
 - In other words, more schools fall outside the Good grade descriptor for RE (both upwards and downwards) than is the case for the Overall Grade.

Additional Data

Appeals and Complaints				
	Number received	Not found in favour of school	Partially upheld	Fully upheld and reinspected
Appeal (<i>1 is currently under adjudication</i>)	5	1	2	1
Appeal/Complaint	2	1		1
Delayed inspections				
Deferral requests from schools		15		
Deferrals granted		14 (all Covid-related)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A higher number of inspections have been delayed than is indicated here as approximately 10 have been rearranged due to inspector illness (all Covid) prior to schools being notified. Diocesan intelligence continues to enable us to (re)schedule some inspections sensitively and appropriately due to particular school circumstances. 				
Inspector numbers				
Registered inspectors (incl newly signed-off)		107 (incl 15 newly signed-off)		
Resignations since national integration		21		
Awaiting sign-off (training complete)		47		
2022 new inspector training cohort		67		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost all 47 trainees still awaiting sign-off will be registered by September 2022. Factoring in further anticipated resignations as well as inspectors awaiting sign-off, we should have approx. 145 inspectors by September 2022 and 200 by September 2023. Some expressions of interest for the 2023 training cohort have already been received, despite applications not opening until the end of the year. 				

General Comments

- As only seven secondary schools have been inspected so far this academic year, their data is not separated out here. I will report on them discretely in the Summer Term.
- At that time, I will also separate out the data relating to the (relatively small) number of Methodist and joint CE/Methodist schools.
- No joint CE/RC schools will be inspected this academic year. Work on a joint approach is underway with the CES but, whilst engaging and cooperative, it has not been terribly productive to date in terms of concrete outcomes.
- Further analysis at report-level will be undertaken in the Summer Term.
- In the Summer, I will provide a separate report to each diocese enabling local comparisons with the national data.

Dr Margaret James | National Director of SIAMS

April 2022