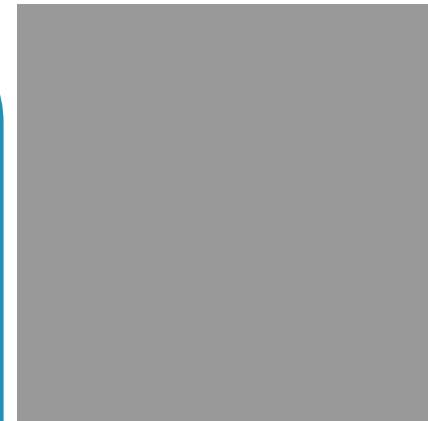


NATSPEC Annual Conference

Outcomes and lessons learned
from ISC inspection activity
September 2009 – April 2010

Sue Preece HMI and
Charlie Henry HMI

May 19 2010



Background

ISC sector

- approximately 3,600 learners
- 55 independent specialist colleges (and a further two in Wales)
- 37% ISCs LARGE 70+ learners
- 53% ISCs MEDIUM 20 – 69 learners
- 10% ISCs SMALL <20 learners

Background

Ofsted ISC activity and involvement

- New inspection cycle began in September 2009
- 9 ISC full inspections, 8 published to date
- 20 focussed monitoring visits including one re-inspection
- 22 Desk based risk assessments
- Dozens of responses to individual queries
- 1 conference for the sector on the new inspection processes
- 1 presentation to Governors
- 1 presentation about Partnerships
- Several meetings and discussions with NATSPEC, YPLA etc..

Aims of the new common Inspection Framework 2009 - 10



- Greater focus on how colleges meet learners' needs
- Greater focus on learning through teaching, training and assessment
- Grades for E&D, safeguarding and value for money that will contribute to the judgements on leadership & management
- More emphasis on the Impact of Every Child Matters, where appropriate
- Increased focus on the progress made by different groups of learners
- Introduction of limiting judgements for E&D and safeguarding

Aims of the new common Inspection Framework 2009 - 10



- Judgements for capacity to improve are more prominent
- A single inspection framework fit to cover all learning and skills inspections
- Inspections are scheduled according to risk: 4 year cycle for satisfactory colleges and 6 years for good or better (approximate)
- Better reporting of employer-responsive provision in colleges

Overall ISC inspection outcomes to date

Grades for overall effectiveness (OE) from the 8 published reports:

- 5 good or better
- 3 satisfactory
- 1 inadequate

Of these eight colleges

- 3 increased OE by one grade
- 2 increased OE by two grades
- 2 remained the same

- 1 decreased OE by two grades to inadequate

Overall ISC inspection outcomes to date

The eight colleges inspected to date, with published inspection reports, catered for approximately 500 learners in the following proportion:

- 67% of learners were in good or better ISCs
- 26% of learners were in satisfactory ISCs
- 7% of learners were in inadequate ISCs

Key strengths and improvements in successful ISCs

- Overall trend of improving outcomes for learners
- Collaborative working leading to benefits for learners
- Strong focus on individualisation (personalisation)
- Teachers skilfully use wide range of strategies to motivate, challenge and raise expectations
- Rigorous, well monitored targets informed by thorough multidisciplinary assessments
- Innovative and inclusive curriculum
- Highly experienced, innovative senior managers
- Challenging and highly competent governance arrangements

Main areas identified for improvement

- The use of MIS to bring about improvement in:
 - tracking learner progress & target setting
 - analysing achievement data & target setting
 - monitoring and analysing E&D data & target setting
- Tutorials to better meet needs of individual learners
- Teaching skills to use a wide range of strategies to motivate, challenge and raise learners expectations
- The use, availability and accessibility of information and communication technology for learners and staff
- Strategic and quality improvement planning and the monitoring of rigorous key performance indicators

Examples of good practice in:



- Safeguarding
- Equality and diversity
- Data
- Governance
- Partnerships
- Learner involvement
- Quality improvement
- Teaching and learning

Desk monitoring to assess risks

- Change of Principal in last year / Change of ownership
- Significant change in learner numbers / client group
- New provider / new streams of funding
- Complaints against provider
- Serious incident reports (YPLA)
- Adequacy of SAR and clear judgements backed up with clear evidence
- Issues relating to Safeguarding
- Adequacy of QIP in raising standards
- Adequacy of progress against areas for improvements identified at the last inspection and /or FMV
- Ofsted survey reports
- CSCI or Ofsted welfare reports

NATSPEC Annual Conference

Outcomes and lessons learned
from ISC inspection activity
September 2009 – April 2010

Sue Preece HMI and
Charlie Henry HMI

May 19 2010

