

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) School Improvement Guarantee 2018-19

Our ambition is for every Oxfordshire child to attend a school or setting that is at least good

This guarantee applies equally to primary, special and secondary schools. An additional guarantee is produced by the OCC Early Years Team who work with Foundation Stage leaders in schools and academies, nursery schools, private, voluntary and independent settings and with childminders.

OCC commissions System Leaders through the Oxfordshire Teaching School Alliance (OTSA) to provide support to all maintained schools in Oxfordshire. System Leaders are practising headteachers in good or outstanding schools and National Leaders of Education (NLEs). In addition, System Leaders may also be Ofsted inspectors or ex-headteachers within 2 years of having retired who were previously NLEs or Local Leaders of Education (LLEs).

All headteachers, chairs of governors and clerks will be contacted at the start of the Autumn Term 2018 regarding school improvement in the 2018/19 academic year.

Good and outstanding (GO) maintained schools:

Schools where no triggers for targeted support (see below) are identified will receive an annual visit from a System Leader. The focus will be to support the headteacher and governors to ensure that the school continues to deliver a high standard of education for all pupils and, where relevant, identify any risk factors that would stop this from being realised.

Targeted work with good and outstanding maintained schools (TGO):

Schools will be prioritised for support using transparent triggers:

- A significant percentage of OCC Position Statement red flags
- Concerns around attainment, progress and attendance data
- School leadership judged as less than good (eg in a school review)
- Risk of being judged less than Good at the school's next inspection

Three visits will be provided by a System Leader. These visits will be prioritised for the autumn term and by inspection due date. If Early Years within the school is deemed to be at risk of not being good, bespoke support will be brokered from the OCC Early Years Team.

Bespoke work with targeted good and outstanding maintained school (TGO+)

Schools will be prioritised where significant areas of concern have been identified using clear triggers (as above) plus:

- Patterns of low attainment over 2 years
- Patterns of progress below average over 2 years
- Section 8 inspection outcome identifies risk of being judged by Ofsted as below good

For **TGO+** schools, OCC will fund increased support from a System Leader (to a maximum of 4 visits) as required. The local authority may fund necessary support if there is no funding from other sources (including, for example, the school's own budget, national funding sources, the Diocese). A bespoke local authority support plan will be written to

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express the elements of the support package which the local authority is funding or facilitating. This will include clear success criteria and impact measures. Strategy meetings will be convened on a six-weekly basis and will be chaired by a senior local authority officer. These will be used to check that the school is on track to retain its Good judgement at the next inspection and to ensure that the support for the school is timely, reflects the changing needs of the school and is having a positive impact on pupil outcomes.

Requires Improvement (RI) maintained schools:

The LA will identify a bespoke package to support school improvement so that the school is judged Good at the next inspection. This will include, where appropriate, Early Years Support from the OCC Early Years Team. The local authority's expectation is that following an RI judgement a school will be 'Good' within four terms.

For **RI** schools, OCC will fund increased support from a System Leader, to a maximum of 5 visits. The local authority will identify a bespoke package of support and will fund elements if there is no funding from other sources (including, for example, the school's own budget, national funding sources, the Diocese). A local authority support plan will be written to express the elements of the bespoke package which the local authority is funding or facilitating. This will include clear success criteria and impact measures. Strategy meetings will be convened on a six-weekly basis and will be chaired by a senior local authority officer. These will be used to check that the school is on track to be judged Good at the next inspection and to ensure that the support for the school is timely, reflects the changing needs of the school and is having a positive impact on pupil outcomes.

New headteachers (NH) in maintained schools will receive a half day welcome visit by a System Leader. The local authority will establish network meetings for new headteachers and concentrated support for interim headteachers. Early Years training aimed at new head teachers will be offered through [Step into Training](#).

Inadequate (I) maintained schools:

An LA Strategy meeting will be convened on a six-weekly basis which will be chaired by a senior local authority officer. It will be used to check that the school is on track to be good at the end next inspection and ensure that the support for the school is timely, reflects the changing needs of the school and is having a positive impact on pupil outcomes, In addition the LA will provide support with academisation as per DfE Schools Causing Concern (Feb 2018) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-causing-concern--2>

Academies (A):

In the context of the continuing relationship between OCC and leaders of Academies/Multi-Academy trusts (MATs) in the county, an annual structured conversation will take place with the relevant leaders in MATs (or academies) where there are schools causing concern, schools who have been judged RI or inadequate and schools at risk of being judged less than good by Ofsted.