

OFSTED SCHOOL INSPECTIONS SINCE 1 SEPTEMBER 2003

**Report By: Head of Inspection, Advice and School
Performance Service**

Wards Affected

Countywide

Purpose

1. To up-date the Committee on the outcomes of Ofsted School Inspections (both locally and nationally) between 1 September 2003 and the start of the current academic year.

Financial Implications

2. None

Report

3. The report to Committee on 14 July last year (Agenda No 7) indicated the outcomes of Herefordshire School inspections for the 2002 – 2003 academic year. Appendix 1 of this report identified 25 schools that had been inspected during the year and gave a brief comment on the outcomes for each school. At the time of writing this report last summer, Madley and Kingsland CE primary schools were awaiting their inspection reports. Both schools emerged with very positive reports.
4. At the end of the last academic year 2002 - 2003, no schools in Herefordshire were judged by Ofsted to require 'special measures' or have 'serious weaknesses' or to be classified as 'underachieving'.
5. Since 1 September 2003, the following schools have so far been identified for an inspection during the academic year.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Peter's Primary, Bromyard	Report published
Colwall Primary	Report published
Gorsley Goffs Endowed Primary School	Report published
Hampton Dene Primary	Report published
St Mary's of Hope Primary	Inspection week beginning 8 March
Lea Primary School	Inspection week beginning 22 March

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Blackmarston School	Inspection week beginning 9 February
Westfield School	Inspection week beginning 2 February

For further information on the subject of this report is available from
Ted St George, Head of Inspection Advice and School Performance Service (01432) 260803

HIGH SCHOOLS

Lady Hawkins High School

Report published

St Mary's High School

Report published

John Kyrle High School

Inspection week beginning 2 February

Weobley High School

Inspection early in the Summer Term

6. A new inspection regime was introduced in September 2003. The assessment to-date is that the new framework is more challenging to schools. There has been a significant increase in the number of schools nationally that have been placed in 'special measures' or judged to have 'serious weaknesses'. This national trend is not evident locally at the time of writing this report.
7. Appendix 1 to this report contains the summary paragraphs of the reports published so far in the current academic year. It is important, however, to stress that, where members of the Committee have a particular interest in a school, the report should be read in full. Copies of Ofsted Inspection reports can be obtained directly from the individual school or via the Herefordshire Education web-site education@herefordshire.gov.uk or the Ofsted web-site www.ofsted.gov.uk. It normally takes about three months from the publication of the report before it is posted on the Ofsted web-site

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee are asked to note the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Appendix 1