



Association of Directors of Public Health – submission to the Ofsted Better Inspection for All consultation, on proposals for a new framework for the inspection of schools, further education and skills providers and registered early years settings.

The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) is the representative body for Directors of Public Health (DsPH) in the UK. It seeks to improve and protect the health of the population through DPH development, sharing good practice, and policy and advocacy programmes.

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Directors of Public Health (DsPH) are the frontline leaders of public health working across health improvement, health protection, and health care service planning and commissioning. ADPH has a strong track record of collaboration with other stakeholders in public health, including those working within the NHS, local authorities, government and other sectors.

Overview and summary

ADPH welcomes the opportunity to comment on *Better inspection for all*.

We would commend the PHE [briefing](#) *The Link between pupil health and wellbeing and attainment* and recommend that the Framework addresses the evidence-based approaches highlighted in this paper to:

- improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people
- improve their potential for educational attainment
- and so help to reduce health and other inequalities.

We would also commend The National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) guidance documents on improving children and young people's health and wellbeing – which include recommendations for schools.

Promoting the health and wellbeing of children and young people within schools and colleges has the potential to improve both their educational outcomes and their health and wellbeing outcomes, and so support the reduction in health and other inequalities:

- Pupils with better health and wellbeing are likely to achieve better academically
- Effective social and emotional competencies are associated with greater health and wellbeing, and better achievement
- The culture, ethos and environment of a school influences the health and wellbeing of pupils and their readiness to learn
- A positive association exists between academic attainment and physical activity levels of pupils

We would recommend that the inspection framework supports a whole-school approach to improving health and wellbeing of children and young people:

- robust evidence (as referenced in the PHE briefing) shows that interventions taking a 'whole school approach' have a positive impact in relation to outcomes including: body mass index, physical activity, physical fitness, fruit and vegetable intake, tobacco use, and being bullied.
- healthy school meals, universally applied to all pupils, have been shown to improve academic attainment, particularly for pupils with lower prior attainment.

We would also recommend that the inspection framework supports:

- the introduction of statutory and comprehensive personal, social and health education (PSHE) programmes across all primary and secondary schools, which foster social and emotional health and wellbeing; and tackle issues around sex and relationships, child sexual exploitation, social inclusion, bullying, drug and alcohol use and mental health.
- implementation of the recommendations in the School Food Plan, including food and nutrition training for teachers.

**Association of Directors of Public Health
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