

ISI Protocol for Gathering Additional Evidence

1. An inspection is completed with the publication of the inspection report.
2. On rare occasions, it may be necessary to gather additional evidence after the end of the onsite inspection and before the publication of the inspection report.
3. In such cases, ISI may return to the school to gather additional evidence and/or gather additional evidence remotely.
4. Gathering additional evidence may be recommended where ISI's quality assurance process identifies that there is a need to do so to securely report inspection evaluations. It may also be necessary where a safeguarding or other matter that was not known to ISI at the time of the onsite inspection is brought to ISI's attention before the publication of the inspection report.
5. A recommendation to gather additional evidence may be made to the Chief Inspector by a director or senior director at ISI. If the Chief Inspector approves the recommendation, ISI will inform the DfE as regulator. If the Chief Inspector is unavailable, a senior director can both make and approve the recommendation, in consultation with the next most senior person available.
6. ISI will contact the school to explain to leaders the need to gather additional evidence, unless there is good reason not to. ISI will also outline the scope of additional evidence that is required.
7. ISI will gather sufficient additional evidence to ensure that the evaluation and judgements are secure and that the inspection process is complete before the inspection report is finalised. Additional evidence gathered will be included in the evidence base.
8. ISI will always consider the impact on school leaders of its decision and will aim to minimise extra time spent on additional evidence gathering and avoid disruption to the school as far as is possible.
9. The reporting inspector will provide further provisional feedback to school leaders at the conclusion of the additional evidence gathering.
10. ISI's usual quality assurance and publication processes will continue with consideration of the additional evidence.