



**Lord Nash**

**Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools**

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*Dear Alister,*

I write following your recent parliamentary questions about the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI).

We want all inspection of independent schools to be robust and transparent. We have listened to the views of the inspectorates and associations, and value their contribution and independence. I can tell you that we will not at this time be pressing for substantial changes to inspection frameworks, although it will of course be important for inspectorates to update their documents to reflect the forthcoming changes to the independent school standards, and to maintain a relentless focus on safeguarding.

There is one matter that we will be asking the independent inspectorates to address; we shall be asking them to come forward with proposals for reducing the notice period for inspections and greater use of no-notice inspections where the need arises. But we do not have any proposals at present to ask the independent inspectorates to change their inspection judgements or grade descriptors.

I hope that this gives you some reassurance.

  
LORD NASH