

Aviation House  
125 Kingsway  
London WC2B 6SE

T 08456 40 40 40  
**Textphone** 0161 618 8524  
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk  
www.ofsted.gov.uk

**Direct T** 020 7421 6762  
**Direct F** 020 7421 6546  
[lorraine.langham@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:lorraine.langham@ofsted.gov.uk)



9 August 2010

Baroness Williams of Crosby  
House of Lords  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**Lorraine Langham**  
Director, Corporate Services

Dear Baroness Williams,

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBERS HL1298 and HL1299:**

**To ask Her Majesty's Government how many (a) secondary schools, and (b) primary schools rated "outstanding" in their most recent OFSTED inspection were rated "outstanding" in their previous inspection; and what proportion of the total numbers they represent (HL1298)**

**To ask Her Majesty's Government how many (a) secondary schools, and (b) primary schools have been rated "outstanding" by OFSTED in each of their last three inspections; and what proportion of the total number of schools they represent (HL1299)**

Your recent parliamentary questions have been passed to Her Majesty's Chief Inspector for response. Her Majesty's Chief Inspector is currently on leave and I am deputising for her in her absence.

The latest period for which published figures about maintained school section 5 inspection outcomes are available is the spring term of 2009/10. This answer, therefore, takes into account those primary and secondary schools (including academies and city technology colleges) which were open on 21 April 2010 and had received an inspection on or before 31 March 2010.

Under the school inspection frameworks used between January 2000 and August 2005 (commonly known as section 10), the school's overall effectiveness judgement was made using a seven point scale: 'excellent', 'very good', 'good', 'satisfactory', 'unsatisfactory', 'poor' and 'very poor'. Since September 2005, the overall effectiveness judgement has been made under the current school inspection framework (commonly known as section 5) using a four point scale: 'outstanding', 'good', 'satisfactory' and 'inadequate'.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Given the differences in the measurement of overall effectiveness between the frameworks, it is not possible to operate a simple read-across approach between section 10 and section 5 inspection frameworks.

As the question refers to those schools which were found to be 'outstanding', this answer only looks at those inspections that took place under section 5 (from September 2005). It does not include those schools currently 'outstanding' under section 5, with consecutive inspections under the previous section 10 framework. Scheduling of inspections now places emphasis on inspecting those with previous overall effectiveness judgements of 'inadequate' or 'satisfactory' to a greater degree, so there is a deliberate bias in the way we schedule inspection. Therefore the number of inspections scheduled under section 5 and found to be consecutively 'outstanding' on three occasions or more are likely to be negligible.

Information on which schools were open on 21 April 2010 has been taken from the Department for Education's Edubase system. Information regarding section 5 inspections was taken from archived information on Ofsted's systems.

Of the 1611 secondary schools inspected more than once under section 5, there were 110 secondary schools rated 'outstanding' where their previous section 5 inspection was also rated 'outstanding'. Of the 7545 primary schools inspected more than once under section 5, there were 359 primary schools rated 'outstanding' where their previous section 5 inspection was also rated 'outstanding'.

Of the 370 secondary and primary schools that have been inspected three times under section 5, none have had three consecutive 'outstanding' judgements.

Tables 1 and 2 below contain the information requested.

A copy of this reply has been sent to Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for Schools, and will be placed in the library of both Houses.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Lorraine Langham**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lorraine Langham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "L".

**Table 1: Secondary schools, and primary schools rated "outstanding" in their most recent Ofsted section 5 inspection and rated "outstanding" in their previous section 5 inspection and the proportion of the total numbers they represent**

	Open schools at 21 April 2010 and inspected on or before 31 March 2010	Schools inspected more than once under section 5	Currently graded outstanding at 31 March 2010, and inspected more than once	With a previous consecutive section 5 inspection graded outstanding	Total as a proportion of all schools currently graded outstanding and inspected more than once under section 5	Total as a proportion of all schools inspected more than once under section 5
Secondary <sup>1</sup>	3189	1611	274	110	40%	7%
Primary	16905	7545	991	359	36%	5%
Total	20094	9156	1265	469	37%	5%

**Table 2: Secondary schools, and primary schools rated "outstanding" by Ofsted in each of their last three section 5 inspections and the proportion of the total number of schools they represent**

	Open schools at 21 April 2010 and inspected on or before 31 March 2010	Schools inspected at least three times under section 5	Currently outstanding at 31 March 2010 and inspected three times under section 5	With three consecutive section 5 inspections graded outstanding	Total as a proportion of all schools currently graded outstanding and inspected more than once	Total as a proportion of all schools inspected at least three times under section 5
Secondary <sup>1</sup>	3189	112	2	0	0%	0%
Primary	16905	258	11	0	0%	0%
Total	20094	370	13	0	0%	0%

<sup>1</sup> Secondary schools include secondary, academy and city technology colleges