

SCHOOL INSPECTION SERVICE

Independent professional inspection of schools affiliated to the Focus Learning Trust, schools accredited as members of the Steiner Waldorf Schools Fellowship, and those schools belonging to the Cognita Group which are not members of the Independent Schools Council and its constituent associations

HANDBOOK FOR INSPECTION: SECTION 2(d) [JCB2]

Date of this document: 01 January 2015

INSPECTORS CODE OF CONDUCT

The School Inspection Service is charged by the Focus Learning Trust and the Steiner Waldorf Schools Fellowship with conducting inspections of all of their affiliated and associated schools, and by Cognita with the inspection of those of their schools not in membership of the Independent Schools Council and its constituent associations.

It is committed to providing a high quality inspection service that is able to provide independent and objective monitoring of the schools affiliated to the Trust or associated with the Fellowship in order that these schools may achieve the highest standard of excellence. All inspectors who work for the School Inspection Service are expected to abide by the **Code of Conduct**. This has high expectations of how inspectors will conduct themselves. It is essential that all inspectors familiarise themselves with these expectations and adhere to them. They are expected to:

- evaluate objectively, display impartiality, and have no previous connections, either with the school or with individuals at the school, which could undermine their objectivity;
- report honestly and fairly, and be scrupulous in ensuring that their judgements are accurate and reliable and in accordance with the evidence that they have gathered;
- display integrity in carrying out their work;
- treat those whom they meet in the course of their work with courtesy and sensitivity, while maintaining an appropriate level of authority and objectivity;
- recognise that the process of inspection can be stressful and do everything they can to minimise stress for everyone involved, putting a high priority on the best interests and well-being of all those connected with the school;
- engage in, and maintain, constructive dialogue with those being inspected, whether they be adults or children, and, in the case of adults, communicate their evaluative judgements clearly, openly and honestly; and
- respect the confidentiality of all information, especially that which concerns individuals and their work.

It is hoped that all inspectors will be consistent in their adherence to these principles, and that, in consequence, inspections will proceed smoothly.