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# TRAINING FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS: UNDERSTANDING THE RENEWED OFSTED FRAMEWORK AND YOUR ROLE WITHIN IT

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# INTRODUCTION TO TRAINING

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# AIMS

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To equip TAs with an understanding of expectations under the renewed Ofsted inspection framework introduced in 2025.

To give time to consider the roles TAs play during inspection, including supporting teaching, impact on pupil outcomes, contact with inspectors

To emphasise TAs' role in inclusion, behaviour management, safeguarding, and fostering a positive learning environment.

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# OVERVIEW OF THE RENEWED OFSTED FRAMEWORK

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# KEY CHANGES AND INSPECTION AREAS

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## Five-Point Grading Scale

The new framework uses a colour-coded five-point scale replacing single-word judgements

## Detailed Inspection Domains

Schools receive detailed report cards on safeguarding, inclusion, curriculum and teaching, achievement, attendance and behaviour, personal development and well-being and leadership and governance. If applicable there will also be judgements made on early years and post 16 provision

## Focus on Inclusion and Support

The framework emphasises inclusion and support for SEND and disadvantaged pupils is at the core of inspections. This is done through the lens of six case sample pupils.

## Focus on EYFS/KS1 and foundational skills and knowledge

## Recognition of Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistants' roles in teaching quality and inclusion are now more visible and formally acknowledged

# OFSTED INSPECTION FRAMEWORK



## CHANGES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2025

### 1 NO OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS GRADE



Removal of single overall school grade

### 2 NEW 5-POINT GRADING SCALE ACROSS MULTIPLE AREAS



- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs Attention
- Urgent improvement

Safeguarding: Met or Not Met

### 3 EXPANDED AND STREAMLINED EVALUATION AREAS



Increased evaluation areas for providers and toolkits for inspections provided

### 5 INSPECTION DELIVERY &



All routine inspections will be 'full inspections' and will be attended by an additional inspector

### 4 "REPORT CARD" STYLE INSPECTION REPORTS

- ✓ Safeguarding
- ✓ Inclusion
- ✓ Curriculum and Teaching
- ✓ Achievement
- ✓ Attendance and Behaviour
- ✓ Personal Development and Well-Being
- ✓ Early Years
- ✓ Leadership and Governance

### 6 ROLL-OUT & IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE



Applies from November 2025

# KEY CHANGES AND INSPECTION AREAS

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# ROLE OF TEACHING ASSISTANTS IN THE NEW FRAMEWORK

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# EXPANDED RESPONSIBILITIES AND VISIBILITY

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## Integral role in education

Teaching assistants play an important role in demonstrating teaching quality and supporting pupil outcomes. [Consider how you demonstrate this.](#)

## Inclusive support practices

TAs contribute to inclusive education by supporting SEND pupils and those from disadvantaged backgrounds. [What does this support look like?](#)

## Classroom Climate and Engagement

TAs help maintain positive behaviour and promote pupil engagement in learning activities. [What does this look like for you?](#)

## Collaboration and Communication

TAs articulate their strategies and collaborate effectively with teachers to align with school goals. [Do you feel you have a good understanding of the key priorities for school development at your school?](#)

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# PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR TAS

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# EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM SUPPORT TECHNIQUES

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## **Enhancing Pupil Understanding**

Use effective questioning and timely feedback to deepen pupil understanding and promote independent learning.

## **Promoting Oracy**

Encourage pupils to talk in full sentences across.

## **Supporting Additional Needs**

Employ pre-teaching and overlearning techniques to support pupils requiring extra help and reinforce learning.

## **Collaborative Communication**

Maintain strong communication loops with teachers to ensure alignment with lesson objectives and consistency.

## **Reflective Practice**

Encourage TAs to reflect on their support methods and adjust strategies to improve effectiveness without excessive paperwork.

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# PREPARING FOR INSPECTION

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# WHAT INSPECTORS EXPECT FROM TAS

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## **An understanding of your role**

TAs demonstrate that they understand their role and how that dovetails with the work of the class teacher

## **Supporting SEND and Disadvantaged Pupils**

TAs demonstrate and can explain some of the strategies they use to support SEND and disadvantaged pupils to promote inclusion and independence.

## **Behaviour Support and Professional Dialogue**

Consistency in behaviour management and confidence in professional dialogue are valued by inspectors.

## **Safeguarding Awareness**

TAs should be familiar with safeguarding protocols as this area is assessed during inspections.