External Evaluation of schools: Aims and procedures of the hessian school inspection

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Outline

- School inspection as part of educational governance in Hesse
- The HRS as framework for school inspection
- Aims of school inspection (microlevel and macrolevel)
- Procedure, instruments and report of school inspection
Agents of the hessian educational governance and responsibility for school inspection

Hessian Ministry of Education

- National department of teacher education (AfL)
- Institute for Quality development (IQ)
- State school authorities (SSA)

Department I: External evaluation: School inspection

External evaluation of schools

responsible for target agreements with schools after school inspection
Hessian framework of school quality (HRS) – Guideline for the external evaluation of schools

- Referential guideline for „good school“ in general
- Base for school development
- Developed under cooperation between scientists, teaching staff, heads of school et al.
- Any content of school inspection is based on the HRS
- Any judgement, done by school inspection is based on the HRS
- All instruments used in school inspection are based on the HRS
School inspection focusses on specific areas/criteria of the HRS

- Quality domains (7)
- Quality dimensions (22)
- Quality criteria (81)

Evaluated by 97 indicators
Aims and functions of the hessian school inspection

- External evaluation of all ~ 2000 hessian schools (individual level)
- Stimulate innerschool work on quality improvement (school improvement cycle)
- Inspection reports

- Generation of data-based knowledge about quality of schools (system level)
- Support ministry in decision making via data providing
- Annual reports
Procedure of school inspection

**Preparation** (12 weeks before visit)
- Announcement of inspection
- Preliminary talk between inspektion and head of school
- Completion of online questionnaires
- Analysis of school data and documents
- Processing and analysis of questionnaires

**school visit** (2-4 days, 2-4 inspectors)
- Data collection:
  - Lesson visitation
  - Interviews
  - Presentation of school
  - Analysis of school documents
- Feedback

**Analysis/reporting** (12 weeks after visit)
- Analysis of data
- Rating of each indicator
- Compile report
- Render report
- Appraisal session

**target agreement**
- Target agreement between school and State school office
Instruments used by school inspection

- Analyses of school data and documents
- Observations
- Interviews
- Questionnaires (online)

Judgements on quality of school based on data are rated on a 7-point Likert-scale using VBA-based Excel sheets.
The report of school inspection

Rating of quality criteria results from computing the mean of indicator ratings

Based on completed data analyses, each indicator of a quality criteria is rated on scale from 1 (-) to 4 (++)

For every indicator its rating is explained in a school-specific way.
Thank you for your attention