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26 June 2020

Afzal Khan MP
House of Commons
Westminster
SW1A 0AA

Amanda Spielman
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector

Dear Mr Khan

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBERS 62581 and 62582

Your recent Parliamentary Questions have been passed to me, as Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, for response.

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether Ofsted are required to examine individual school policies and handling of racism in inspections [62581]

While Ofsted is not specifically required to review the relevant policy documents in individual schools, we will always review a school's records of incidents, including any kind of bullying including racist bullying, use of racist language or other racist incidents.

A complaint about racist behaviour or incidents could prompt us to inspect a school, and potentially to do so without notice, although the latter is rare.

For a school to meet the 'good' criteria for our Behaviour and Attitudes judgement, we expect to see evidence that such incidents are not tolerated, that they are dealt with quickly and effectively and are not allowed to spread.

A school is likely to be judged 'inadequate' in the following circumstances:

- If bullying of any kind is frequent; and/or there are frequent incidents of prejudiced or discriminatory behaviour
- If pupils do not have confidence in the school's ability to tackle bullying, harassment or discriminatory behaviour
- If pupils or any group of pupils do not feel safe in the school
- If school leaders fail to promote equality of opportunity in the school

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many Ofsted officers are BAME [62582]

As at 10 June 2020, the number of Ofsted staff who have declared their ethnicity as black, Asian or other minority ethnic is 194, 11% of the total.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Spielman

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Her Majesty's Chief Inspector