

Morley, Peter, 2014, The Efficacy of School Inspection Processes, as perceived by Teachers, Principals and Inspectors in three, Irish Post-Primary Voluntary Secondary School in the Dungarvan Area.

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

This study set out to look at the efficacy of school inspection processes, as perceived Teachers, Principals and Inspectors in three, Irish post-primary voluntary secondary schools in the Dungarvan area.

The researcher's own experience of both subject inspection and a WSE/2MLL led him to look to better understand the purpose, process and effectiveness of school inspection.

The inspectorate has been in operation in Ireland since 1832 and has always had an evaluation function. Inspection was widespread in primary schools in Ireland. However, it is only in the last ten years, following on from the Education Act 1998, that inspection has become a normal feature of secondary school life.

In order to gain an international perspective the inspection process of OFS

based in England will also be examined.

The research methods used to elicit the views of teachers and principals' from three voluntary secondary schools in the Dungarvan area were questionnaire and interview. The response rate was 74%.

Overall, the writer believes that, for the most part, inspection is perceived as something positive. Respondents displayed a polarised attitude and opinion to some aspects of the School Inspection Process. The findings of this research correlated with the literature examined in Chapter two.