School Inspections

In my experience there seemed to be little in the School inspection which focused on pupil attainment, teacher delivery, class mix or discipline of pupils.

The Inspectorate seemed to be asking the wrong questions. The focus seemed to be on window dressing. Indeed it was a couple of years ago when we were inspected and I now cannot recall the focus of the inspection.

I would suggest that the Inspectorate look into the effect of inclusion of ASN schools within mainstream –

- how well trained are the teachers who deliver to ASN in their specific needs
- how well integrated are the ASN children with mainstream – how well does the curriculum address their needs
- what impact does the addition of ASN pupils have on the delivery of lessons in groups with two levels already in their class (Higher and Nat 5) (Nat 4 and Nat 5) clearly the pace of lessons will not suit all and the Nat 5 will not be stretched, unless given extension tasks. They will not necessarily complete these tasks as fast as they might if a teacher can focus on extending pupils ability rather than coping with dragging the less able up to the standard of the more able.

The needs of the more able pupils are being abandoned within the culture of “everyone must achieve”.
