

Webinar

Civic Values and Skills project



**Education
Scotland**
Foghlam Alba

25 January 2024



Skolinspektionen



Inspectie van het Onderwijs
*Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en
Wetenschap*



Agenda webinar

- Welcome & introductions
- Project outline
- Inspection approaches to civic values and skills
- Project findings
 - Different definitions of CVS
 - Plotting of the inspectorates' approach
 - Take aways: inspiration & dilemmas
 - Driving improvement in CVS
- Questions & Discussion

Welcome & introductions

- Ann Kivlin & Robert Hynd (Education Scotland)
- Diana Inal (Skolinspektionen)
- Judith Schmidt & Fanny Verwoerd (Inspectie van het Onderwijs)

Project outline – civic values and skills

Title: 'Supervision of education related to the development of civic values and skills'

Goal: Improved supervision practices of education related to cvs by sharing experiences throughout inspectorates

Main outcomes:

- Increased insight in supervision/inspection of results and outcomes of education related to cvs
- A shared understanding of how inspectorates can use inspection results to drive improvement in cvs

Activities:

- Jobshadowing x3
- Round table discussions x3
- Seminar with key note speakers
- Publication on the research findings
- Webinar

Inspection approaches to civic
values and skills

Scotland – inspection approach

Scotland's Curriculum 'Curriculum for Excellence' – at its centre are four capacities which reflect and recognise the lifelong nature of education and learning.

Education Scotland HM Inspectors aim to serve three main purposes:

- Public accountability, promote improvement and inform the development of educational policy and practice.

CVS – an embedded approach - not inspected as a separate area

How Good is our....quality improvement frameworks

- How we share and promote excellence in learning and teaching

The Four Capacities



Sweden – inspection approach

- CVS is not inspected as a separate field – several elements of CVS (eg. gender equality and democracy issues) are inspected
- Main two branches of inspection are legal inspections (focusing on compliance with the law) and quality audits (focusing on quality aspects)
- The inspectorate can inspect elements of CVS on school owner level and school unit level
- The inspectorate has conducted thematic inspections on different themes of CVS
- Sweden has a national curriculum – several aspects of CVS are incorporated in the national curriculum
- Main principle: schools are obliged by law to provide education based on the national curriculum, students are obliged by law to attend school and participate in education
- The inspectorate can inspect: whether schools adhere to the national curriculum – whether schools follow up on students who fail to attend school
- The inspectorate has a focus on extremism, radicalization and anti-democratic elements - when anti-democratic elements are found among school owners, the inspectorate can impose sanctions and, in the event of serious misconduct, close schools

The Netherlands – inspection approach

- *Legislation?* New legislation from 1st of August 2021. Essential elements of CVS education: active citizenship & social cohesion > purposeful, targeted & coherent
- *What and how to teach CVS?* What is defined in the law & core national objectives, how to teach is what schools are free to decide
- *How do we inspect?* Inspection framework – governing board and schools & thematic inspections – schools
- *How do we report?* System level (e.g. Annual State of Education report & thematic reports), governing board & school level
- *How do we follow up?* Remedial action orders & further engagement
- *Challenges?* Monitoring CVS, role & responsibility of inspectorate, sensitive & controversial topic in politics & society

Project findings

Different definitions CVS

The Netherlands → *focus on active citizenship & social cohesion*. CVS is part of the inspection framework; it needs to be implemented in education in a targeted and coherent manner.

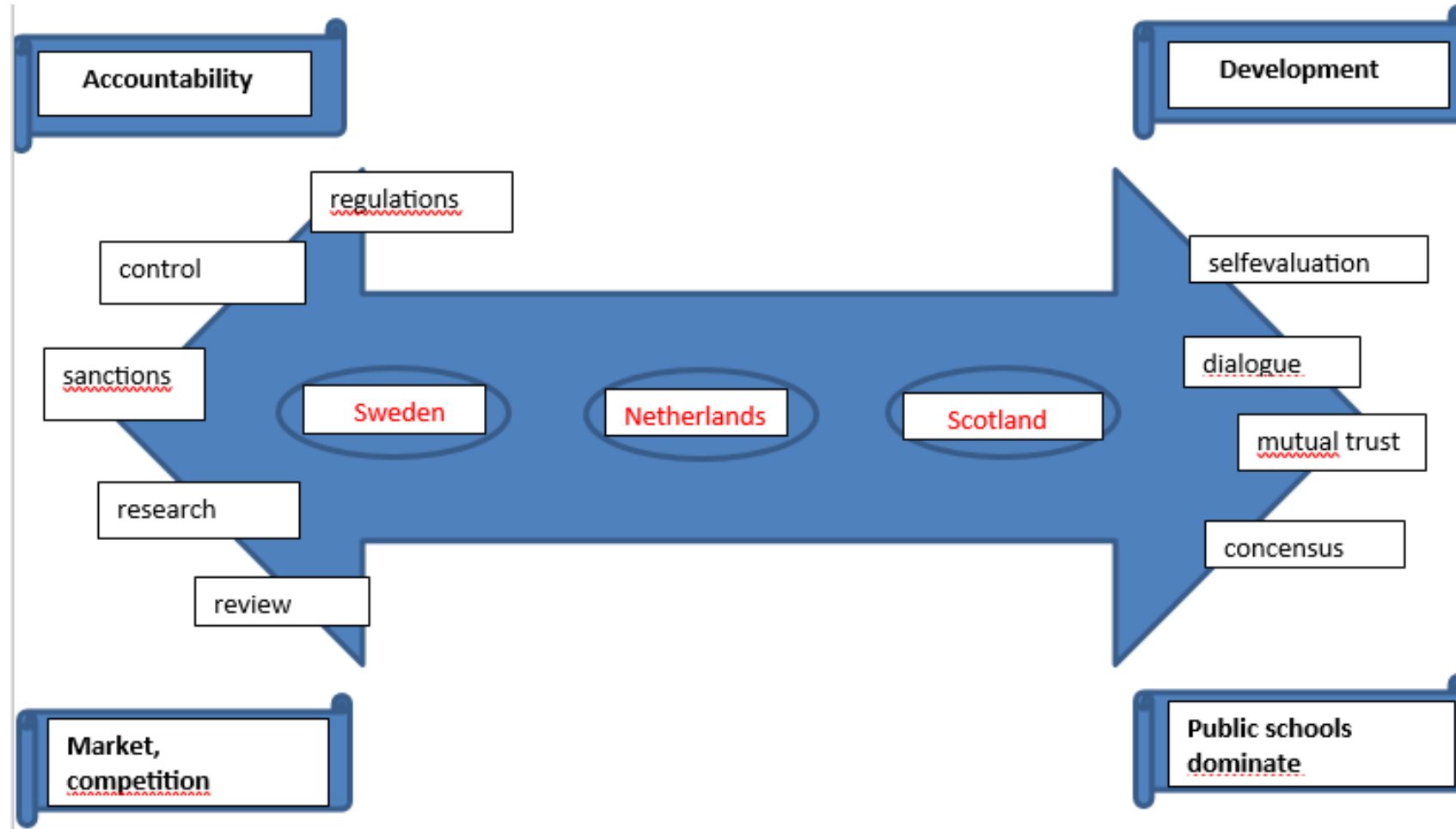
Sweden → *focus on democratic values and norms*.

Elements of CVS are inspected during legal inspections and quality audits.

Scotland → *not using a single definition; holistic approach*.

CVS is not an individual area of inspection, several indicators are related to this, these are evaluated from a holistic perspective.

Plotting the inspectorates



Take aways: inspiration

- All encompassing approach by Scottish inspectorate (child-centred) > wider range of education settings
- Using expert analyses to inform inspections in Sweden and the Netherlands.
- Developed new legislation on CVS in the Netherlands outlining what is expected from schools.
- Legal inspections and quality audits on CVS elements in Sweden.
- Schools visited in all 3 countries were good examples of incorporating CVS education.
- Use of self evaluations for schools and associate assessors during inspections in Scotland.
- Inspection on governing board level - the governing boards need to ensure adequate quality on CVS education

Take aways: dilemmas

- Dilemma between autonomy of schools and regulations by the government
- Dilemma on monitoring CVS results and outcomes in schools
- Differences in depth of focus on CVS during inspections
- Dilemma on the role of inspectorate (tension between policy, development & supervision)
- Recognize that we could do more to share highly effective examples of how to work on CVS education.
- To truly see the impact of CVS curriculum, schools and inspectorates need to look at the wider impact in society.

How to drive improvement in CVS?

Policy makers:

- Creating/adjusting the law concerning CVS education

Inspectorates:

- Sharing good examples between schools and wider education settings
- Discuss potential personal biases of inspectors
- Focus on education experiences in wider educational settings such as community
- Recognise achievements and accreditation of CVS

Schools/educational settings:

- Active student/learner participation
- Acknowledge and value of out-of-school experiences
- Linking school and the wider society – recognising the totality of the learning environment
- Diversity of teachers/educators and students – contributors to the development of CVS
- A targeted and coherent manner of offering education in CVS

Questions



Discussion

1. How to deal with the dilemma between autonomy of schools versus regulations by the government? Thoughts? Examples?
2. What does your inspectorate do to drive improvement in civic values and skills? Examples?

Thank you for your attention!

The report will be available soon.
It will be shared via email and will be available online.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact:

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