

Education and Training Inspectorate

PRIMARY INSPECTION



All Saints' Primary School, Omagh, County Tyrone

Maintained, co-educational DE Ref No (203-6557)

Report of a Sustaining Improvement Inspection (Involving Action Short of Strike) in May 2019



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

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Department of Education
Department for the Economy
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Sustaining Improvement Inspection of All Saints' Primary School, Omagh, County Tyrone (203-6557)

Introduction

The previous inspection in May 2016 evaluated the overall effectiveness of All Saints' Primary School as having a high level of capacity for sustained improvement. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 23 May 2019.

Four of the teaching unions which make up the Northern Ireland Teachers' Council (NITC) have declared industrial action primarily in relation to a pay dispute. This includes non-co-operation with the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI). Prior to the inspection, the school informed the ETI that none of the teachers would be co-operating with the inspectors. The principal co-operated with the inspection team in relation to safeguarding responsibilities. The ETI has a statutory duty to monitor, inspect and report on the quality of education under Article 102 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986. Therefore, the inspection proceeded and the following evaluations are based on the evidence as made available at the time of the inspection.

Focus of the inspection

Owing to the school's participation in industrial action:

- the inspection was unable to focus on evaluating the extent to which the school is capable of demonstrating its capacity to effect improvement through self-evaluation and effective school planning; and
- a line of inquiry was not selected by the school from the development plan priorities.

Key findings

- A group of year 6 and 7 children report that they have very good opportunities to develop their leadership capabilities and roles of responsibility through the Eco- and School-Councils. The children are confident to express a range of opinions and interests in the curricular and extra-curricular activities provided by the school. They reported enjoyment of sport, swimming, the arts and reading novels, and have a pride in their school.

The ETI was unable to evaluate fully:

- the quality of learning and teaching within the classrooms.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect broadly the guidance from the Department of Education. A group of year 6 reported that they feel safe in school and know what to do if they have any concerns about their safety or well-being. However, owing to the action short of strike, the ETI was unable to evaluate fully the outworking of the arrangements for safeguarding in the school.

The school needs to:

- ensure that the parents are updated on the recent amendments to the safeguarding policy, in line with the Department of Education requirements, including the revised names, roles and responsibilities of the safeguarding team.

Conclusion

Owing to the impact of the action short of strike being taken by the staff, the ETI is unable to assure parents/carers, the wider school community and stakeholders of the quality of education being provided for the children. The school is a high priority for future inspection with no further notice.

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