



*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
Promoting Improvement*



Providing Inspection Services for
**Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Education and Training Inspectorate

Area-Based Inspection

**St Kevin's Primary School
Belfast**

March 2009

AREA-BASED INSPECTION - WEST BELFAST AREA 2009: STRATEGIC PLANNING, COHERENCE IN LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an area-based inspection in St Kevin's Primary School, Belfast during March 2009.

The strengths and areas for improvement were identified as follows.

Strengths include:

- the effective leadership of the Principal and senior management team, in promoting a strategic and collaborative approach to continuous improvement;
- the children's high levels of motivation and positive responses to the wide range of formal and informal learning experiences offered, and the evidence of their steady progress in attainment in English;
- the very good opportunities provided for the children to apply and connect their learning in a range of relevant contexts, linked effectively to real life situations;
- the excellent links with a broad range of external organizations, schools and businesses which enrich the children's learning and development;
- the excellent ethos evident in the caring, respectful and inclusive atmosphere throughout the school in which the children demonstrate high levels of confidence, self-esteem and behaviour; and
- the effective development of a range of initiatives to involve parents in their children's learning.

An area for improvement is the need to:

- develop further the curricular links and exchange of information between the feeder pre-school centres and post-primary schools to which children transfer, to ensure appropriate challenge and continuity in the children's learning and development.

The overall composite report for the area-based inspection raises some important recurring areas for improvement. While these are not applicable in all the individual organisations, they are nevertheless important to address across the West Belfast area.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2009

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the DE website: www.deni.gov.uk or may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR.