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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
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**Department of Education**  
**Department for Employment and Learning**  
**Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**



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## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Area-Based Inspection**

**St Oliver Plunkett 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 Oliver Plunkett Primary School, Belfast during March 2009.

### **Strengths include:**

- the strategic leadership and vision provided by the Principal, supported by the leadership team, in setting high expectations for what the children can achieve;
- the high quality of the whole-school planning and associated action plans that promote improvement;
- the systematic and thorough monitoring and evaluation of the learning and teaching throughout the school, facilitated well by the effective organisational structures;
- the effective use of data to track the children's progress over time and to identify the key priorities for future planning;
- the very strong pastoral focus for the work of the school that promotes progress; and
- the strong sense of community reflected in the very positive relationships at all levels, including the links established with pre-school centres and post-primary schools.

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.

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