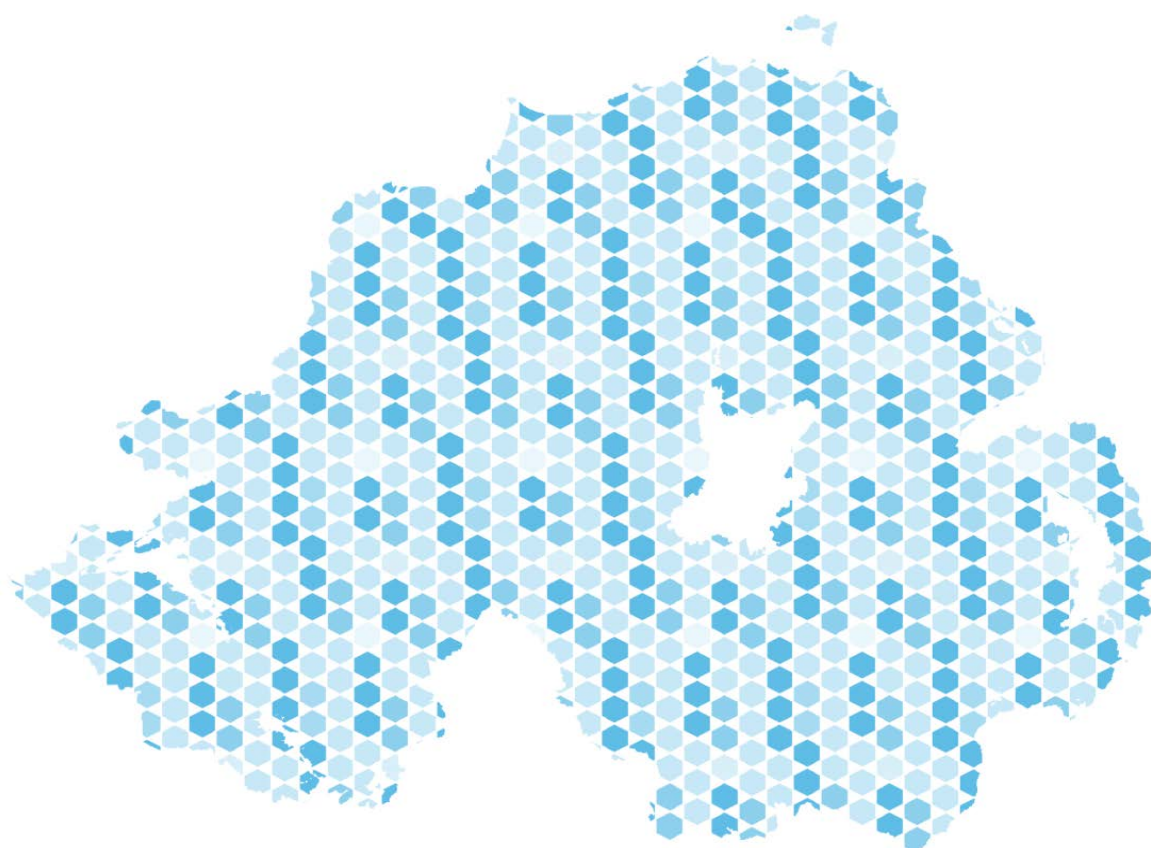


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Donaghey Primary School,
Dungannon, County Tyrone

Controlled, co-educational primary school

Report of a Monitoring Inspection
(Involving Action Short of Strike)
in January 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments



Monitoring Inspection of Donaghey Primary School, Dungannon, County Tyrone (501-6224)

Introduction

The aim of the Monitoring Inspection is to evaluate the extent to which the leadership and management uses self-evaluation effectively to inform the development planning process to bring about improvement. The outcome of the inspection will inform future inspection activity.

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 all of the teachers, including the principal, would not be co-operating with the inspectors. The ETI have 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 available at the time of the inspection. The ETI met with representatives of the governors who provided documentation.

Focus of the inspection

The governors provided documentation and information in relation to governance, school improvement, and safeguarding.

Owing to the school's participation in industrial action:

- the inspection was unable to focus on evaluating action to promote improvement and its impact on learning and teaching and outcomes for learners;
- lines of inquiry were not selected from the development plan priorities; and
- the school did not demonstrate if and how the actions taken have led to improvement for the learners.

Key findings based on documentation provided by and discussions with governors

- The governors are well informed and play an active role in the life and work of the school. As a result of ongoing reflection and self-evaluation, they support and challenge, as appropriate, the principal and staff, and make a meaningful contribution to the school improvement process.
- The school development plan, which is informed by wide consultation with all stakeholders and the analysis of performance data, sets out clearly a comprehensive and evaluative baseline from which the staff have identified areas for further improvement.
- It will be important that the employing authority, school governors and the staff plan for, and manage, issues related to the sustainability of the school provision and school budget, in order to address the current and future needs of the children and the staff.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that satisfactory arrangements for safeguarding reflect broadly the guidance issued by the relevant Departments.

However, owing to the action short of strike, the ETI was unable to evaluate fully, or discuss with staff, the outworking of the arrangements for safeguarding in the school.

CONCLUSION

Owing to the impact of the action short of strike being taken by the principal and teachers, 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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