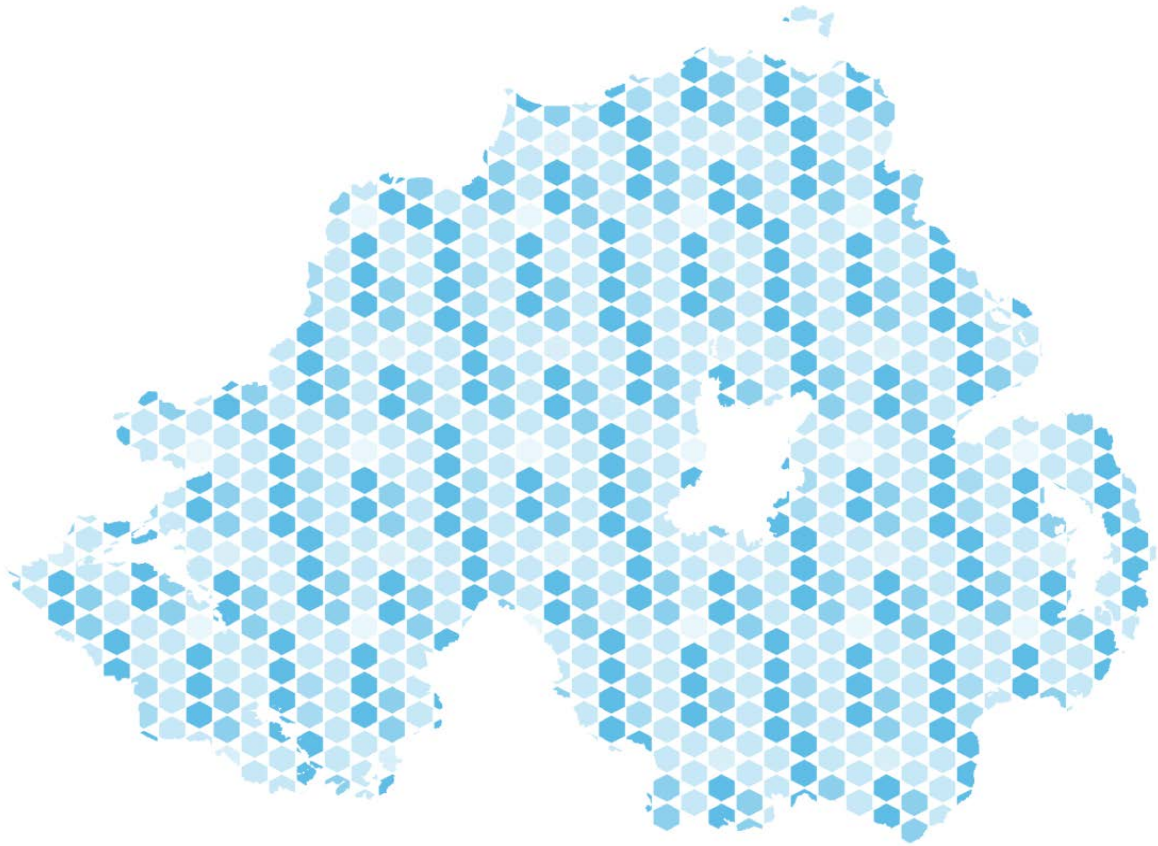


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Millennium Integrated Primary
School and Nursery Unit,
Saintfield, County Down

Integrated, co-educational

Report of a Monitoring Inspection
(Involving Action Short of Strike)
in March 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 Millennium Integrated Primary School and Nursery Unit, Saintfield (406-6644)

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 none of the teachers would be co-operating with the inspectors. 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 fully on evaluating action to promote improvement and its impact on learning and teaching and outcomes for learners;
- lines of enquiry 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

The following findings are based on a review of the school development plan provided by, and discussions with, the principal and vice-principal.

- The school development planning process includes wide consultation with all stakeholders. The improvement priorities are informed sharply by the analysis and use of qualitative and quantitative data to monitor and evaluate the quality of the actions taken, and to track the children's progress.
- The school has established purposeful curricular links with a special school and neighbouring post primary school which inform well the staff professional development programme.

Safeguarding

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

During the inspection, inspectors had the opportunity to meet with a group of year 6 children. They spoke very positively about their experiences in school; in particular, the children talked about their enjoyment of learning, the support they receive from the staff and the wide range of after-school activities. The children reported that they feel happy and safe in school and know whom to contact if they have any concerns with regard to their 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.

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.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2017

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 ETI website: www.etini.gov.uk