

# Education and Training Inspectorate

## PRIMARY INSPECTION



### Bunscoil an Traonaigh, Lios na Scéithe/Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh

Irish-medium, co-educational DE ref no (204-6669)

Report of an Inspection (Involving Action Short of Strike) in  
January 2019



The Education and Training Inspectorate  
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education  
Department for the Economy  
and other commissioning Departments

CUSTOMER  
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## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Context

Bunscoil an Traonaigh is an Irish-medium primary school situated on the outskirts of the town of Lisnaskea. Almost all of the children attending the school come from the town and surrounding rural areas and the remainder travel from across the county. Over the past four years, the enrolment has increased significantly and the school operates at just over full capacity. At the time of the inspection, new modular accommodation adjacent to the temporary school building was near to completion.

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.

Bunscoil an Traonaigh	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Enrolment	45	44	47	59
% School attendance	94.4	95.9	95.8	N/A
% NI Primary school average	95.5	95.5	N/A	N/A
FSME Percentage <sup>1</sup>	55.6	43.2	48.9	38.9
No. of children on SEN register	13	18	19	19
% of children on SEN register	28.9	40.9	40.4	32.2
No. of children with statements of educational need	*	*	*	*

**Source:** data as held by the school.

\* fewer than 5

N/A not available

### 2. Children's, parents' and staff questionnaire responses

As a result of the action short of strike, the school did not distribute the online, confidential questionnaire information to children, parents and staff. Therefore, it is not possible to report on the views of children, parents and staff.

### 3. Focus of the inspection

The ETI was unable to evaluate:

- outcomes for children with a particular focus on numeracy;
- quality of provision with a particular focus on numeracy including across the curriculum; and
- quality of leadership and management.

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'FSME Percentage' refers to the percentage of children entitled to free school meals.

#### 4. Overall findings of the inspection

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	Unable to assure the quality of education
<b>Outcomes for learners</b>	No performance level available
<b>Quality of provision</b>	No performance level available
<b>Leadership and management</b>	No performance level available

### KEY FINDINGS

#### 5. Outcomes for learners

The ETI was unable to evaluate:

- the learning outcomes for the children, including those who require additional support with aspects of their learning;
- progression in the children's learning; and
- the children's wider skills and dispositions.

#### 6. Quality of provision

The ETI was unable to evaluate:

- the quality of the curriculum;
- the effectiveness of the guidance and support in bringing about high quality individual learning experiences;
- the effectiveness and impact of planning, teaching, learning and assessment in promoting successful learning; and
- care and welfare.

#### 7. Leadership and management

The ETI was unable to evaluate:

- the effectiveness of strategic leadership and governance;
- the effectiveness and impact of middle leadership; and
- the effectiveness of action to promote and sustain 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.

## **8. Safeguarding**

- During the inspection, the school did not provide evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect or reflect broadly the guidance from the Department of Education<sup>2</sup>.

## **9. Overall effectiveness**

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 and safeguarding being provided for the children. The school is a high priority for future inspection with no further notice.

The ETI will return to the school within six weeks to evaluate the progress in addressing the arrangements for safeguarding.

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<sup>2</sup> The Department of Education will seek assurance from the Education Authority that they are working with the school in relation to the inspection report.

### Inspection methodology and evidence base

The ETI's Inspection and Self-Evaluation Framework is available on the ETI website: [The Inspection and Self-Evaluation Framework \(ISEF\): Effective Practice and Self-Evaluation Questions for Primary | Education Training Inspectorate](#)

Inspectors observe learning and teaching, scrutinise documentation and the children's written work and hold formal and informal discussions with children, teachers and staff with specific responsibilities.

The arrangements for inspection include:

- a meeting with a representative from the governors;
- meetings with groups of children; and
- the opportunity for the children, parents, teaching and support staff to complete an online, confidential questionnaire.

Where, owing to the action short of strike, this evidence base was not available, it has been referenced in the body of the inspection report.

The arrangements for this inspection included:

- a meeting with the principal.

## Reporting terms used by the Education and Training Inspectorate

### Quantitative terms

In this report, proportions may be described as percentages, common fractions and in more general quantitative terms. Where more general terms are used, they should be interpreted as follows:

Almost/nearly all	-	more than 90%
Most	-	75% - 90%
A majority	-	50% - 74%
A significant minority	-	30% - 49%
A minority	-	10% - 29%
Very few/a small number	-	less than 10%

### Performance levels

The ETI use the following performance levels when reporting on outcomes for learners, quality of provision and leadership and management<sup>3</sup>:

Outstanding
Very good
Good
Important area(s) for improvement
Requires significant improvement
Requires urgent improvement

The ETI use the following levels when reporting on governance:

High degree of confidence
Confidence
Limited confidence

The ETI use the following levels when reporting on safeguarding:

Reflects the guidance
Reflects broadly the guidance
Unsatisfactory

The ETI use the following levels when reporting on care and welfare:

Impacts positively on learning, teaching and outcomes for learners.
Does not impact positively enough on learning, teaching and outcomes for learners.

<sup>3</sup> And the overall provision in a unit, as applicable.

## Overall effectiveness

The ETI use one of the following inspection outcomes when evaluating the overall effectiveness of the school:

The school has a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor how the school sustains improvement.
The school demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor how the school sustains improvement.
The school needs to address (an) important area(s) for improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing the area(s) for improvement. There will be a formal follow-up inspection in 12 to 18 months.
The school needs to address urgently the significant areas for improvement identified in the interest of all the learners. It requires external support to do so. The ETI will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing the areas for improvement. There will be a formal follow-up inspection in 18 to 24 months.



## **ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF BUNSCOIL AN TRAONAIGH, IN JANUARY 2019**

### **SAFEGUARDING**

The ETI returned to the school on 15 March 2019 to monitor and report on arrangements for safeguarding.

The purpose of the visit was to provide the school with a further opportunity to provide evidence on its arrangements for safeguarding; owing to action short of strike, the school did not provide evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding reflect or reflect broadly the guidance from the Department of Education at the time of the inspection on 28 January 2019.

During the follow-up visit, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect broadly the guidance issued by the Department of Education.

The school needs to ensure that:

- more robust risk assessments are in place for school trips;
- training requirements are up-to-date for all governors; and
- the small number of policies that remain in draft form are ratified by the governors and shared with the parents.

The inspector met with the children from Rang 6; they reported that they feel happy and safe in school. They know what to do and who to talk to if they are concerned about their safety or well-being.

Owing to the ongoing action short of strike, the ETI was unable to evaluate fully, the outworking of the arrangements for safeguarding in the school.

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