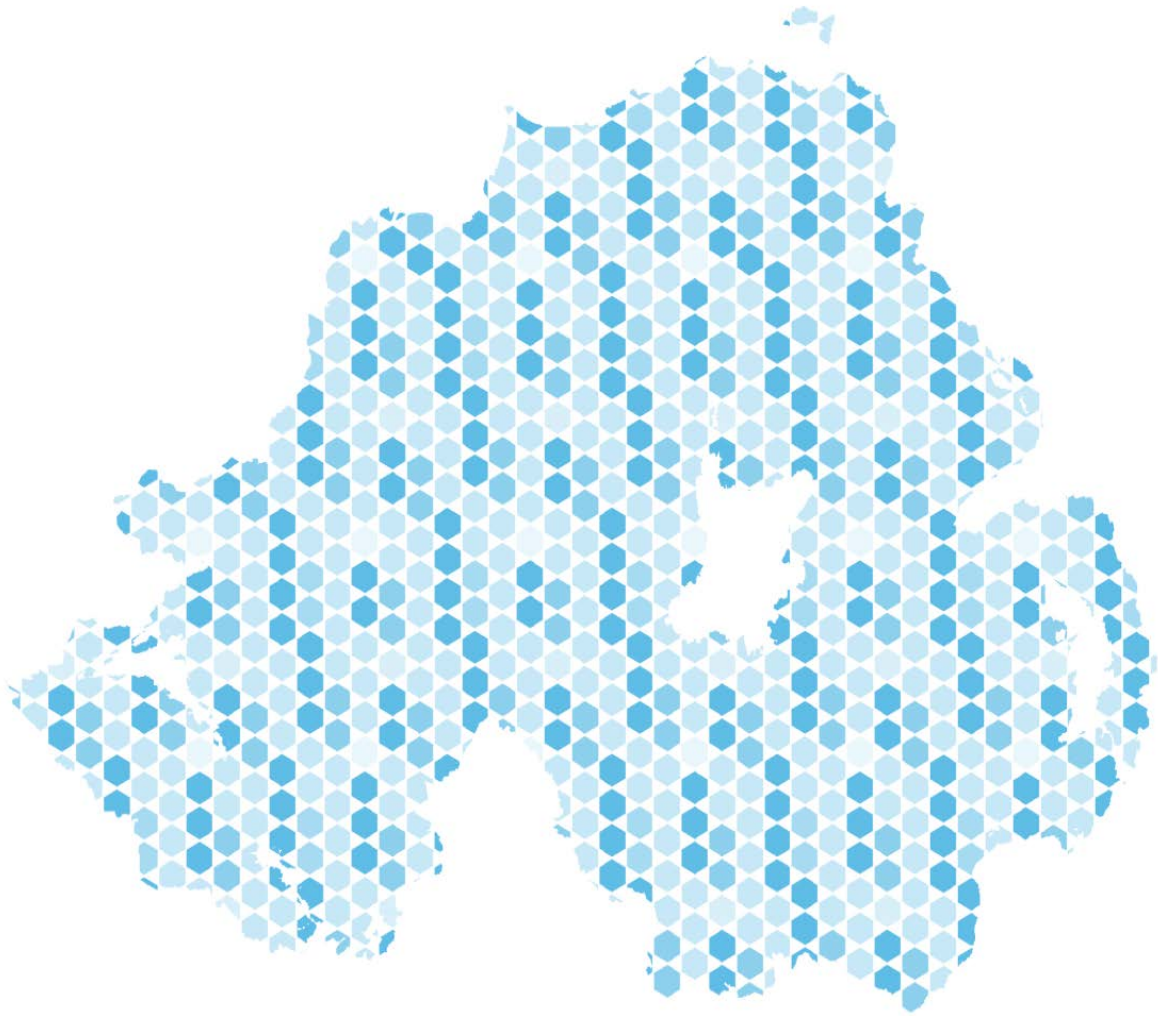


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Dunseverick Primary School,  
Bushmills, County Antrim

Controlled, co-educational

Report of an Inspection (Involving  
Action Short of Strike) in  
May 2017

*eti*

The Education and Training Inspectorate  
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education  
Department for the Economy  
and other commissioning Departments



# Contents

<b>Section</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. Context	1
2. Views of children, parents and staff	1
3. Focus of the inspection	1
4. Overall findings of the inspection	1
5. Outcomes for learners	1
6. Quality of provision	2
7. Leadership and management	2
8. Overall effectiveness	2

## **Appendices**

- A. Inspection methodology and evidence base
- B. Reporting terms used by the Education and Training Inspectorate

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Context

Dunseverick Primary School is situated on the Whitepark Road, near Bushmills in County Antrim. The number on the school register has shown a gradual decrease over the past four years and is now 102 children. The proportion of children entitled to free school meals has remained consistently around 25% while the number identified as requiring support with their learning has decreased to around 13% of the school population in the same four-year period.

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, including the principal, 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.

### 2. Views of children, parents and staff

As a result of the action short of strike, the school did not distribute the online questionnaire information to parents and staff nor facilitate the focus group meetings with children. Therefore, it is not possible to report on the views of parents, staff and children.

### 3. Focus of the inspection

The ETI was unable to evaluate the:

- outcomes for children with a particular focus on numeracy and literacy including across the curriculum and how the school is addressing low attainment and underachievement where applicable;
- quality of provision; and
- quality of leadership and management.

### 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:

- standards attained by the children;
- 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.

During the inspection, the school did not provide evidence that satisfactory arrangements are in place for safeguarding learners.

## **CONCLUSION**

### **8. Overall effectiveness**

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 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 and report on the arrangements for safeguarding.

### **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](#)

In order to conduct a primary inspection, 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(s) from the governors;
- meetings with groups of children; and
- the opportunity for the parents, teaching and support staff to complete a 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 and a representative from the governors.

## 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>1</sup>:

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

### 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.
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.

<sup>1</sup> And the overall provision in a subject area or unit, as applicable.

## **ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF DUNSEVERICK PRIMARY SCHOOL IN MAY 2017**

### **SAFEGUARDING**

The ETI returned to the school on 21 September 2017 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 satisfactory arrangements were in place at the time of the Inspection on 22 May 2017.

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

Work on reviewing and updating a number of pastoral policies is under way and needs to be completed.

The children reported that they feel safe in school. They know what to do and whom 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.

© 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](http://www.etini.gov.uk)