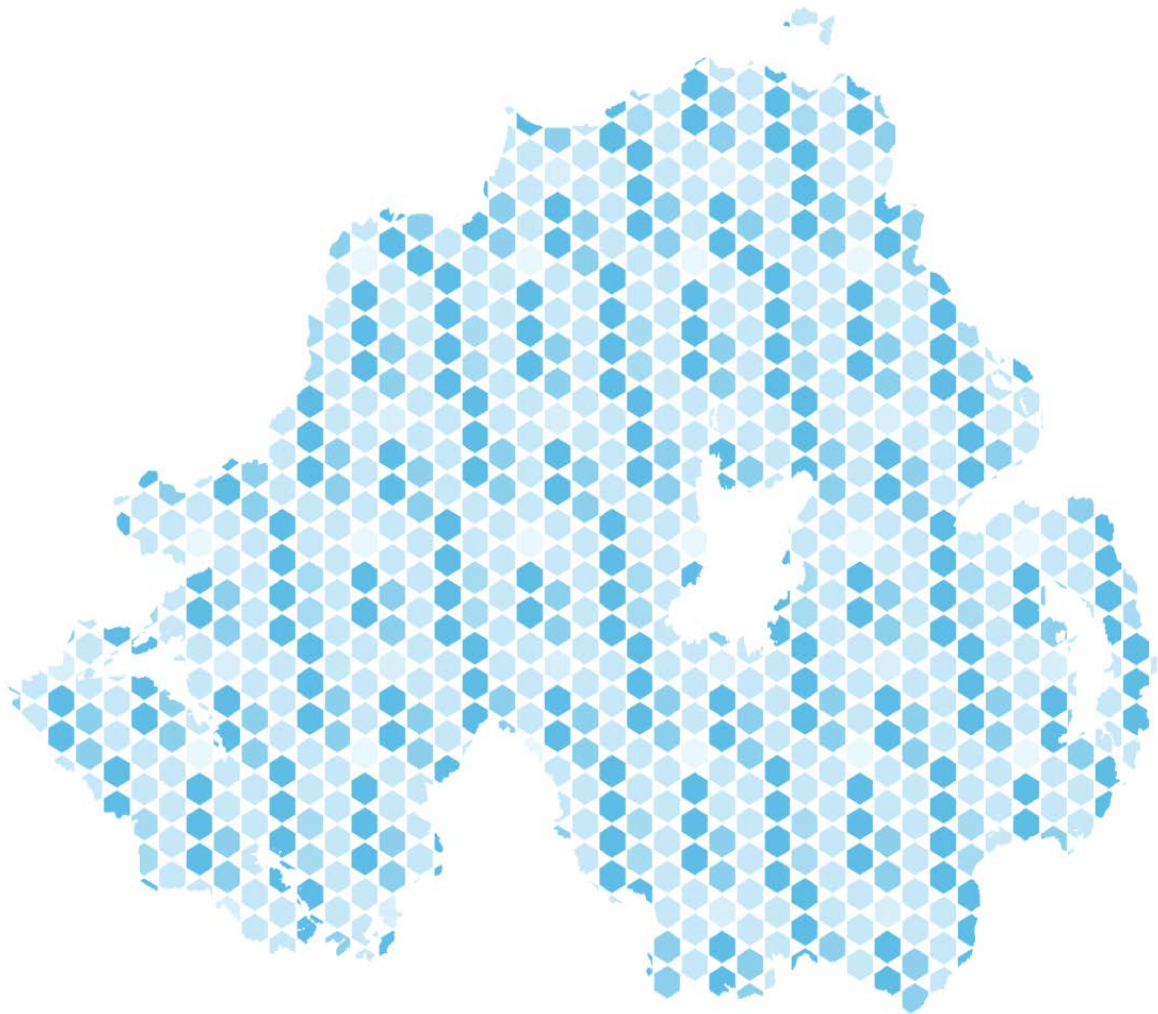


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Donemana Primary School,  
Donemana, County Tyrone

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Sustaining Improvement  
Inspection (Involving Action Short of  
Strike) in June 2018

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The Education and Training Inspectorate  
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CUSTOMER  
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EXCELLENCE



## **Sustaining Improvement Inspection of Donemana Primary School, Donemana, County Tyrone (201-2711)**

### **Introduction**

The previous inspection in June 2015 evaluated the overall effectiveness of Donemana Primary School as good<sup>1</sup>. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 4 June 2018.

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 the teachers would not be co-operating fully 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 on evaluating the extent to which the school is capable of demonstrating its capacity to effect improvement through self-evaluation and effective school planning; and
- a line of inquiry was not selected by the school from the development plan priorities.

### **Key findings**

- The group of children from year 6 reported that they benefit from learning a range of skills at the after-school's clubs and the homework club. The children are proud of their sporting achievements. They have opportunities to take on leadership roles in the School- and Eco-Councils.

The ETI was unable to evaluate fully:

- the line of inquiry; and
- the quality of learning and teaching within the classrooms.

### **Safeguarding**

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect broadly the guidance from the Department of Education (DE). The Child Protection policy has been updated and ratified by the board of governors to reflect current DE guidance; the revisions are to be shared with the parents. A group of children from year 6 reported that they feel safe in school and know what to do if they have any concerns about their safety or 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.

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<sup>1</sup>From September 2015, the overall effectiveness of a school evaluated previously as good has been reported as demonstrating capacity to identify and bring about improvement.

## **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.

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