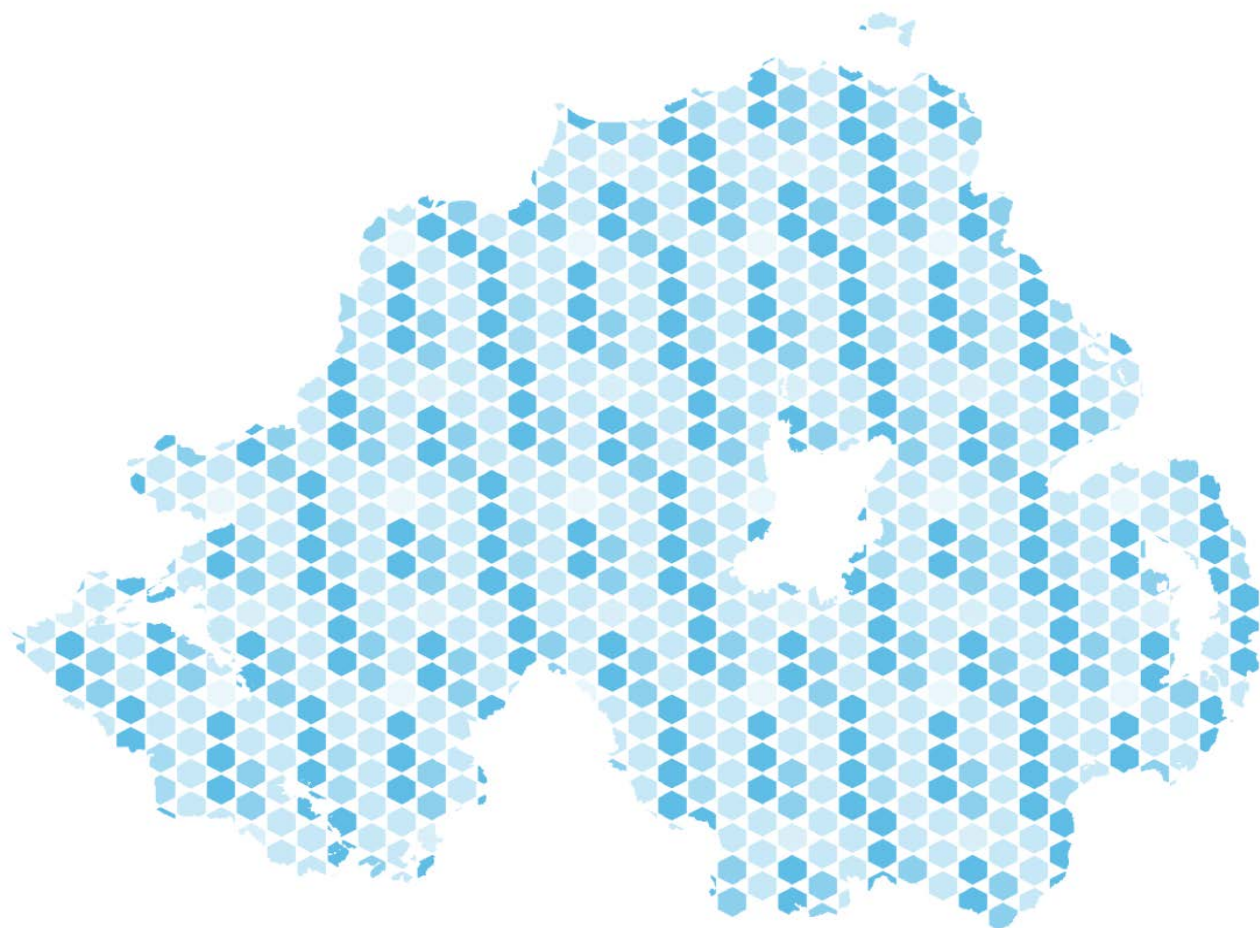


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Anahilt Primary School,
Hillsborough, County Down

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Follow-up Inspection
in April 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
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CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF ANAHILT PRIMARY SCHOOL, HILLSBOROUGH, COUNTY DOWN, BT26 6BP (401-1608)

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Anahilt Primary School¹ in October 2016 which concluded that the school needed to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all the learners.

The areas for improvement were to:

- improve the quality of the planning, learning, teaching and assessment;
- develop the capacity of the co-ordinators to monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision and the standards that the children attain; and
- strengthen the governance of the school.

The school's action plans were of a good quality and the school's development plan was adjusted in light of inspection findings.

The ETI carried out an interim inspection visit in October 2017 and a follow-up inspection in April 2018.

In the interval since the initial inspection, the actions or changes which affect the work of the school include:

- an acting chair of governors has been appointed;
- a sub-committee for school improvement has been established on the board of governors;
- a process of consultation has taken place with parents, staff, governors and focus groups of children to identify future actions;
- a monitoring and evaluation schedule has been devised and adhered to;
- the long- and short-term planning in literacy has been reviewed and amended;
- an acting special educational needs co-ordinator has been appointed;
- pastoral policies for RSE² and anti-bullying are now in place; and
- a range of training and support has been provided by the Education Authority.

Key findings

- The outcomes for the learners remain good. In the lessons observed, the children: expressed themselves confidently using a progressively expanding range of vocabulary; worked well individually, in pairs and in small groups; and engaged well in the learning activities set for them by their teachers. A selection of year six and seven children discussed readily and enthusiastically their preferences in reading; they read with confidence and fluency.

¹ <https://www.etini.gov.uk/sites/etini.gov.uk/files/publications/primary-inspection-anahilt-primary-school-hillsborough-county-down-401-1608.pdf>

² Relationship and Sexuality Education Policy

- The quality of the provision is now good. During the follow-up inspection, the lessons observed were set in meaningful contexts which engaged the children's interest and an effective range of active learning and teaching methods were employed. The classroom assistants work well in partnership with the class teachers and support effectively the children with their learning. The comprehensive review of literacy planning has resulted in a clearer whole-school understanding of the progression and development of literacy skills across all areas of the curriculum. There is also clear differentiation in the planning, learning and teaching and a more effective system of tracking Tall of the children's needs and progress. While the teachers are becoming increasingly confident in reflecting on their own practice, there is a variation in the quality of the evaluations of learning which needs to be addressed.
- The quality and effectiveness of leadership and management, and action to promote improvement are now good. There are now clear systems in place to guide a more rigorous process of monitoring and evaluation in key curricular areas and to plan for further improvement. A range of monitoring approaches has been implemented effectively in literacy and the school has identified appropriately the need to embed this further across other curricular areas. The school is using both qualitative and quantitative data to set targets, plan interventions and track progression in learning.
- Based on the evidence available at the time of the follow-up inspection, the ETI's evaluation is that there can be confidence in the aspects of governance evaluated. The board of governors and the improvement sub-committee have a clearer understanding of the outcomes the children attain in English and mathematics and exercise effectively their challenge function.
- The school has been very well supported by the Education Authority. The advisers have contributed to the improvement in the quality of the learning and teaching and the planning, particularly in Literacy.

Overall effectiveness

Anahilt Primary 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 in continuing to build the capacity of the middle leaders to evaluate the quality of the learning experiences and outcomes for the children.

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