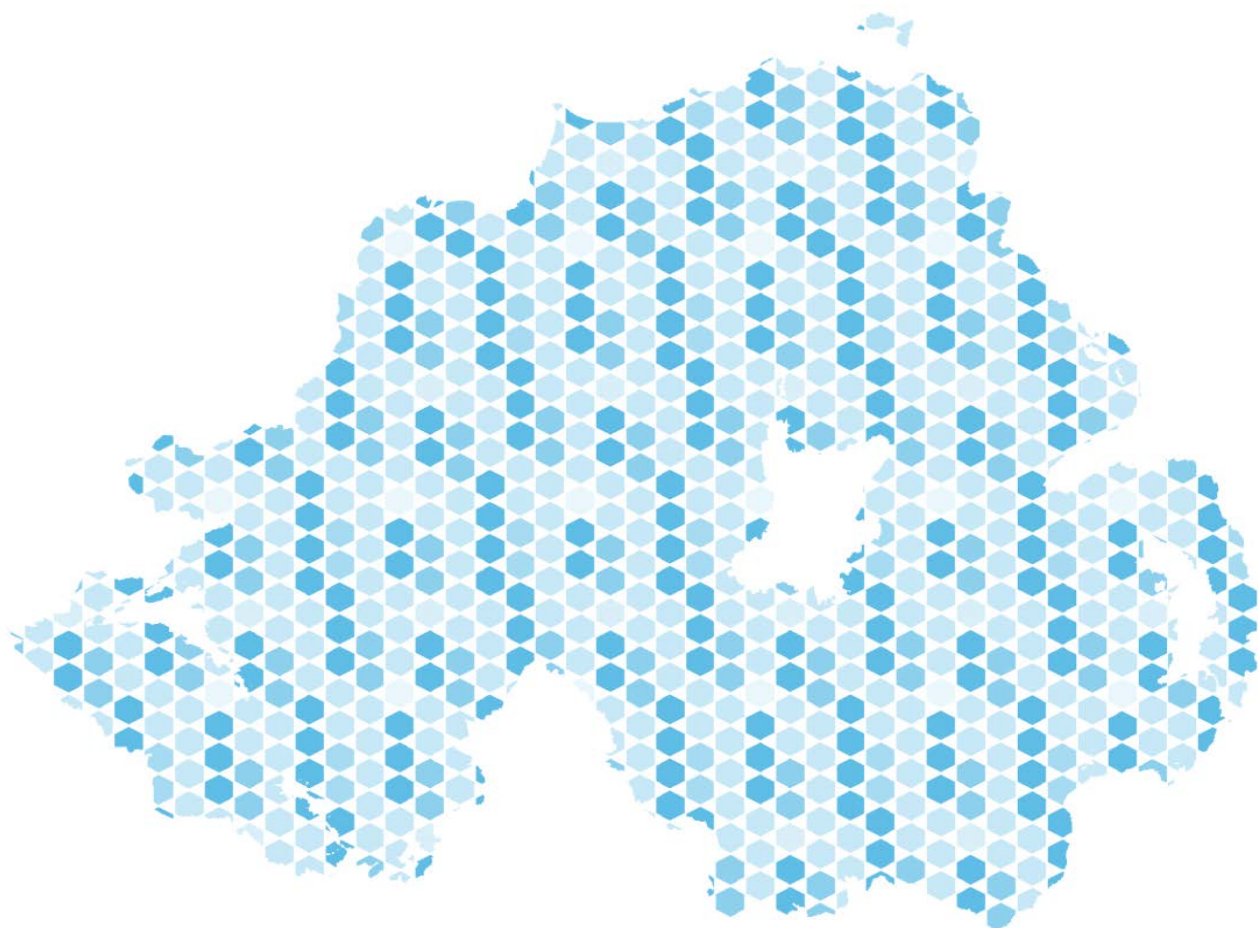


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Ballinamallard Primary School
and Nursery Unit, Enniskillen,
County Fermanagh

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Follow-up Inspection
in October 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments

CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF BALLINAMALLARD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY UNIT, ENNISKILLEN, COUNTY FERMANAGH, BT94 2NY (201-1893)

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Ballinamallard Primary School and Nursery Unit¹ in June 2016 which concluded that the school needed to address an important area for improvement in the interest of all the learners.

The area for improvement was:

- to develop the role of the co-ordinators to use the action planning process to monitor and evaluate more rigorously the quality of the children's learning experiences and achievements across 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. An interim school development plan was put in place following the appointment of a new principal in January 2016.

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

In the interval since the initial inspection, the following actions or changes which affect the work of the school have taken place:

- the development of a new three-year school development plan;
- clarification of the roles and responsibilities of the literacy and numeracy co-ordinator including new monitoring and evaluation procedures;
- the establishment of a school improvement sub-committee of the board of governors;
- a comprehensive review of the whole-school schemes of work for literacy and numeracy including mental mathematics;
- an extensive review of long-, medium- and short-term planning across the curriculum; and
- training and support provided by the Education Authority (EA).

Key findings

- The outcomes for the learners are now very good. The children display enthusiasm for their learning and are confident when engaging with each other and with the adults who support their learning. The presentation and accuracy of the children's written work across the curriculum shows significant improvement. Of particular note is the children's extended writing across a broad range of genre which is now of a high quality due in part to higher expectations, greater understanding of consistent progress throughout the classes and the regular use by the children of peer- and self-assessment skills. The most able children in year 7 read with fluency and are able to talk about a range of favourite authors and writing styles. In numeracy, there are now increased opportunities for the children to reason, justify and explain their thinking using a wide range of appropriate specific mathematical vocabulary. The most able children in year 7 are confident in explaining the strategies they use to make calculations and solve number problems. ICT is used well by the children across the curriculum to express ideas and explore new topic areas.

¹ <https://www.etini.gov.uk/sites/etini.gov.uk/files/publications/primary-inspection-ballinamallard-primary-and-community-nursery-school-enniskillen-county-fermanagh.pdf>

- The quality of the provision is now very good. During the follow-up inspection, almost all of the teaching was very good; the lessons are set in meaningful contexts and activities are skilfully differentiated to provide challenge for the more able and support for those with additional learning needs. A comprehensive review of long-, medium and short-term planning has resulted in a high quality of consistent planning throughout the school. The children's progress is monitored carefully by the class teacher and detailed evaluations are used effectively to inform future planning; classroom assistants now contribute regularly to this process. Whole school overviews for literacy and numeracy, including mental mathematics, are now in place and guide effectively the staff in the planning process. Links with the nursery unit have been strengthened to include regular meetings of the foundation stage and nursery unit staff to ensure progression in learning and teaching for the younger children.
- The quality and effectiveness of leadership and management, and action to promote improvement are now very good. The new leadership team has overseen a strategic, focused and well-paced improvement process which has been well supported by all of the staff. The highly committed literacy and numeracy co-ordinators have led a comprehensive review of their respective curriculum areas; there is now in place a rigorous system of monitoring and evaluation for all the children, across all aspects of learning and teaching throughout the school including the outcomes of interventions for those children with additional needs. The board of governors and the school improvement sub-committee has supported well the work of the school and provide effective dual roles in supporting and challenging the improvement process. The school has been very well supported by the Education Authority.

Overall effectiveness

Ballinamallard Primary School and Nursery Unit 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.

© 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