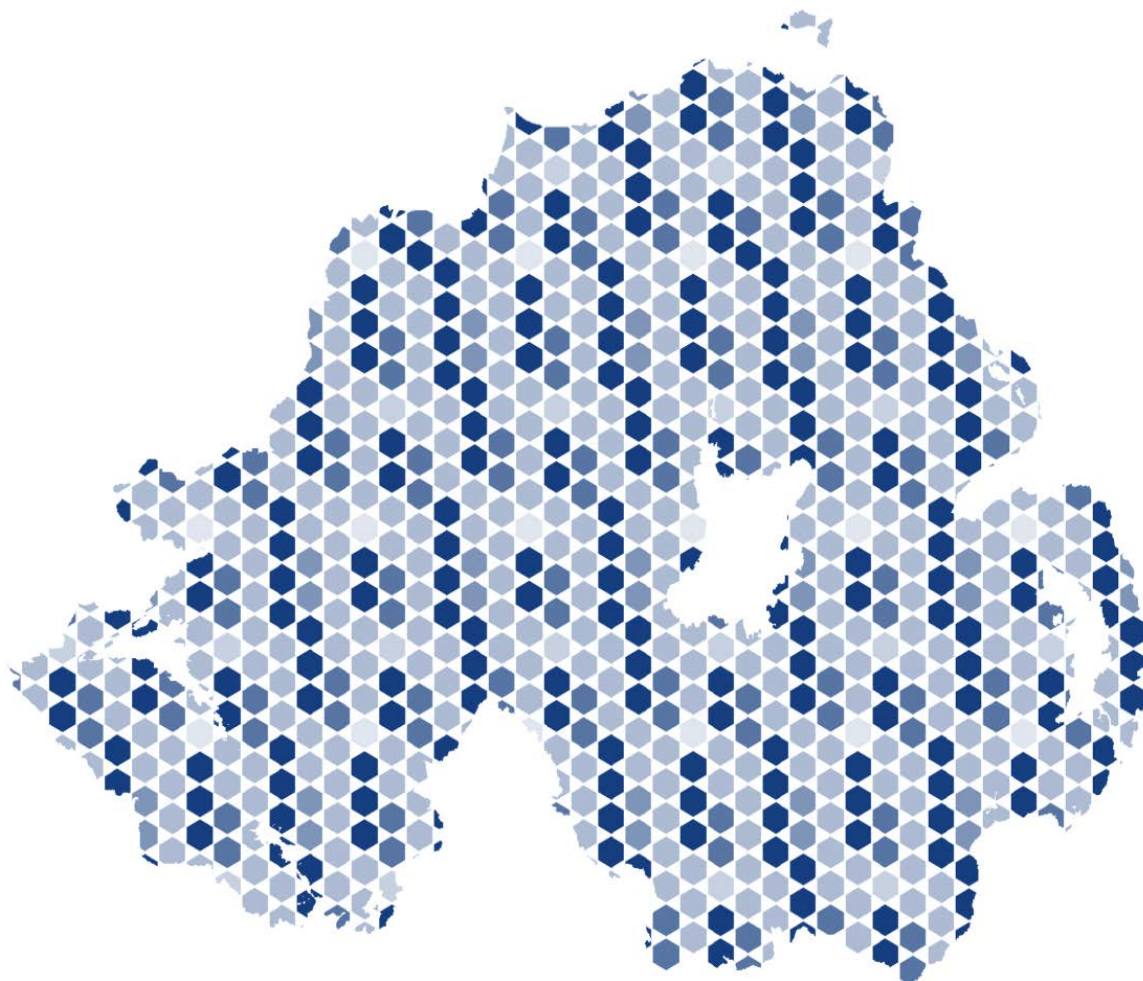


# POST-PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Devenish College, Enniskillen,  
County Fermanagh

Co-educational Controlled Non-selective 11-18 school

Report of a Follow-up Inspection  
in October 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate  
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## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DEVENISH COLLEGE, ENNISKILLEN, CO FERMANAGH, BT74 6JL (221-0312)**

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Devenish College in April 2016<sup>1</sup> which concluded that the school needed to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all the learners.

The areas for improvement identified were the need to:

- improve the quality of learning and teaching;
- review and broaden the curriculum offer and access, to meet better the needs of all of the pupils; and
- develop further the capacity of the senior and middle leaders to improve strategic direction, contribute more fully to the school improvement agenda through effective monitoring and evaluation, and raise standards further.

The school's action plans were of a good quality and identified key actions to promote improvement. The school reports that they received good support in a range of areas from the Education Authority (EA).

The progress being made in the areas for improvement was discussed with the school during the interim follow-up visit which was carried out by the ETI in December 2016.

In the interval since the inspection in April 2016, the following actions or changes which affect the work of the school have taken place:

- the year 8 intake has increased from 61 to 116 pupils and total enrolment has increased from 481 to 513 pupils;
- a new vice-principal has been appointed and the roles and responsibilities of the leadership, at all levels, have been reviewed and restructured; and
- the school has adopted a new line management and accountability structure to embed further the ongoing improvement work across the whole school.

### **Key Findings**

Through effective leadership by the senior leadership team, the staff have worked collegially to improve: the learning experiences of the pupils; the working relationships at all levels; and the outcomes attained by the pupils. The staff have benefitted from well-targeted professional development in a range of appropriate areas which align well with the school's priorities and associated actions for improvement.

The provision for English is now good. The effectiveness of the learning and teaching has improved and the pupils attain good outcomes at GCSE level.

The curriculum has been broadened to good effect, across all key stages. The introduction of a broader and more appropriate suite of vocational subjects at key stage 4 and post-16 provides more coherent progression pathways for the pupils. The curriculum is enhanced significantly through successful collaboration with the local further education college.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.eti.gov.uk/sites/etini.gov.uk/files/publications/post-primary-inspection-devenish-college-enniskillen-county-fermanagh.pdf>

In almost all of the lessons observed during the follow-up inspection process, the quality of the learning and teaching was effective in promoting the pupils' learning. Improvements were noted in: the positive relationships in the classroom; better planning to meet the needs of most of the pupils; and strategies to ensure that pupils are more engaged and actively involved in their own learning. Going forward it will be important to ensure that planning is sufficiently differentiated and monitored to meet the needs of the more able and to address the difference in outcomes attained by boys and girls.

The care and support of the pupils has been a priority for the school with clear evidence of progress and improvement. Good progress has been made by the school in the use of a range of pastoral and academic data to baseline, track and monitor the progress of individual and groups of pupils. The pupils speak with pride about their school and they report that relationships with staff and one another are positive and respectful.

The overall outcomes attained by the pupils have improved since the last inspection. The proportion of pupils attaining five or more GCSEs or equivalent at grades A\* to C, including English and mathematics, has increased to 54% which is well above the average for similar schools.

The proportion of pupils attaining five or more GCSEs or equivalent at grades A\* to C has increased to 71% and is in line with similar schools.

The proportion of pupils entitled to free school meals attaining five or more GCSEs or equivalent at grades A\* to C, including English and mathematics, has increased to 53% which is in line with their peers and now well above the Northern Ireland (NI) average.

The proportion of pupils attaining three or more GCE A levels or equivalent at grades A\* to C continues on an upward trend and is in line with the NI average for similar schools. In the last year, almost all of the pupils attained two or more A levels or equivalent at grades A\* to C.

## **Conclusion**

Devenish College demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners.

The follow-up inspection has identified the following area for improvement:

- to continue to focus on improving further the quality of learning and teaching.

The ETI will monitor how the school sustains improvement.

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