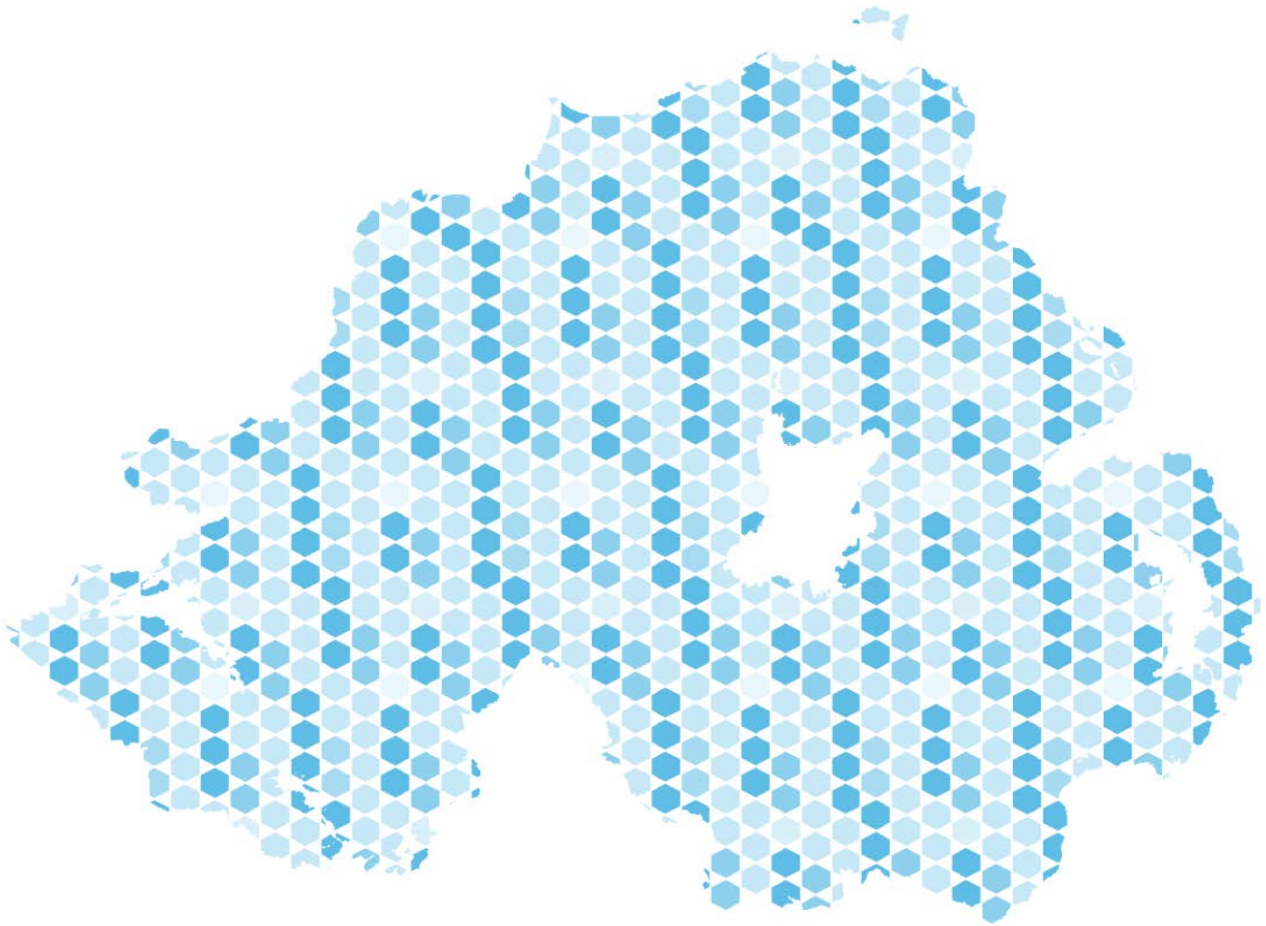


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Donacloney Primary School and
Nursery Unit, Craigavon,
County Armagh

Maintained, co-educational

Report of a Follow-up Inspection
in June 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
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CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DONACLONEY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY UNIT, CRAIGAVON, COUNTY ARMAGH, BT66 7LP (501-6178)

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Donacloney Primary School, Craigavon, in January 2017 which concluded that the school needed to address important areas for improvement identified in the interest of all the learners. The areas for improvement were to:

- Identify, implement, monitor and evaluate further actions to improve behaviour management within the school;
- review urgently the arrangements for safeguarding children; and
- address the planning for and teaching of mathematics in order to improve the learning experiences and standards attained by the children.

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

The ETI returned to the school in February 2017 to monitor and report on the arrangements for safeguarding¹ children. An interim follow-up visit was carried out in September 2017 and a follow-up inspection in June 2018.

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

- the safeguarding arrangements were reviewed by the school, and inspected in March 2017. The arrangements for safeguarding children reflects the guidance from the Department of Education;
- the behaviour policy has been reviewed and updated;
- all staff have engaged collegially in professional development for positive behaviour management; and
- significant changes in staffing.

Key findings

- The outcomes for the children in mathematics have improved and are now very good. The quality of the children's workbooks and in work displayed around the school is of a very good standard. During the lessons observed, the children were able to use a wide range of mental mathematical strategies to answer questions confidently and explain their thinking using appropriate mathematical language. Underachievement in numeracy is addressed through comprehensive analysis of assessment data, detailed planning, effective differentiation in the classroom and well-targeted early intervention programmes. An analysis of the school's internal data shows that by the end of the key stage (KS) 2 most of the children are achieving as expected or above their targets in mathematics. The behaviour of the children is very good, and they display tolerance and mutual respect for their peers and staff.

¹ https://www.etini.gov.uk/sites/etini.gov.uk/files/publications/primary-inspection-donacloney-primary-school-and-nursery-unit-craigavon-county-armagh-501-6178_2.pdf-addendum: safeguarding

- The quality of provision is now very good. Significant work has been undertaken to improve planning, learning, teaching and assessment in mathematics in particular; as a result, there is a consistent approach to planning and a high standard of provision. Almost all of the lessons observed were very good or outstanding. The most effective lessons have appropriately differentiated planning, effective questioning and activities that stimulate the children's engagement and responses. The individual education plans are of a high quality; they contain clear, appropriate and measurable targets, and inform well the learning and teaching. The behaviour management strategies used consistently by all of the school staff are of a high quality, sensitive to the needs of the children and impact positively on the children's behaviour.
- The quality and effectiveness of strategic leadership, management and action to promote improvement is now very good. The senior leadership team work collegially to plan, monitor and evaluate effectively the thorough action plans for mathematics and behaviour management in particular. A well-planned schedule of effective monitoring, lesson observations and evaluation procedures is carried out by the co-ordinators which ensure consistency of approach, appropriate progression of the children's learning, and high quality learning and teaching. The board of governors receive and interrogate reports of all monitoring and evaluation activities to ensure that they are thoroughly informed of curriculum planning, lessons observations and the children's progress and outcomes. The excellent strategic leadership for behaviour management ensures a collegial approach and consistency by the whole staff. The children contribute to class rules and respond readily to the school routines and high expectations of staff.
- The Education Authority (EA) provided effective support which has resulted in the improvements in the leadership for mathematics and the quality of learning and outcomes for the children.

Overall effectiveness

Donacloney Primary School demonstrates a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interests of all the learners. The ETI will monitor how the school sustains improvement.

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