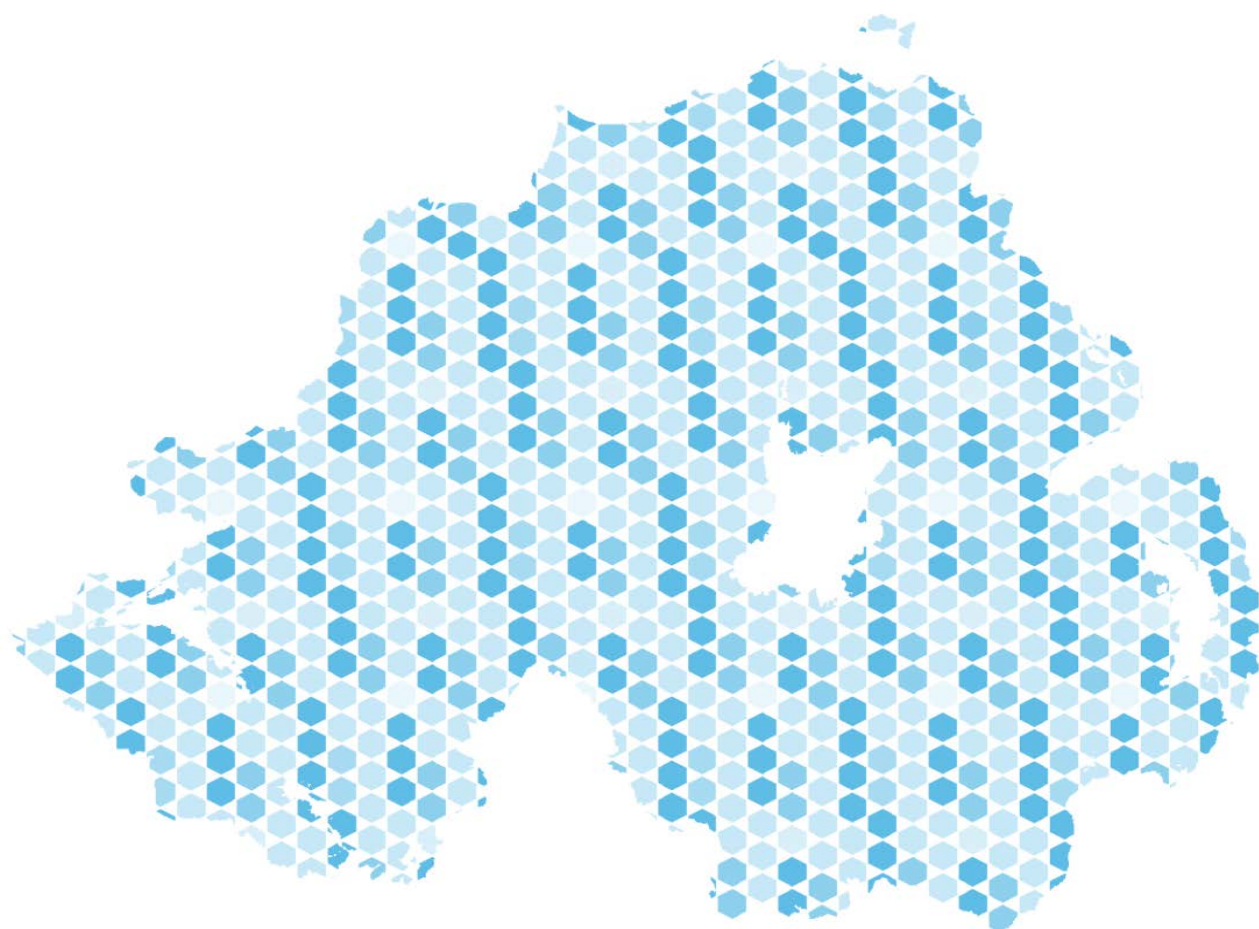


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Gaelscoil Ghleann Darach,  
Crumlin, County Antrim

Irish-medium, co -educational

Report of a Follow-up Inspection  
in September 2016

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF GAELSCOIL GHLEANN DARACH, CRUMLIN, BT29 4LA (304-6684)**

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection<sup>1</sup> of Gaelscoil Ghleann Darach in February 2015 which concluded that the overall performance level for the school was satisfactory<sup>2</sup>.

The areas for improvement were the need to:

- plan more effectively for the needs and abilities of the individual children and to ensure there is sufficient progression and challenge in the learning for all of the children; and
- to ensure that the school developing planning process and associated action plans are more focused on the learning needs of the children in order to guide better the process of monitoring, evaluation and improvement.

The school's action plans received by the department of education following the inspection were of a good quality.

The ETI carried out two interim follow-up visits in November 2015 and June 2016 and a follow-up inspection in September 2016. At the time of the original inspection, the school operated in temporary accommodation on a split campus.

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

- the school has recently moved to new purpose-built modular accommodation;
- the Education Authority staff have provided significant numeracy and literacy support;
- the newly-appointed literacy and numeracy co-ordinators have provided on-going professional development for the staff and have engaged in a range of monitoring and evaluation strategies to measure the efficacy of new learning and teaching approaches;
- the school uses more effectively a range of qualitative and quantitative data to identify and address low and potential underachievement and high achievement; and
- the board of governors has established an education sub-committee to monitor the post-inspection improvements.

### **Key Findings**

The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and action to promote improvement are now good. The school leadership has demonstrated the capacity to bring about improvement. The team works coherently and roles and responsibilities are now clearly defined. The team provides effective strategic leadership and promotes successfully school improvement through, for example, more robust systems of monitoring and evaluating the planning, learning, teaching and assessment.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.eti.gov.uk/publications/primary-inspection-%E2%80%93-gaelscoil-ghleann-darach-crumlin-co-antrim>

<sup>2</sup> From September 2015, the overall effectiveness of a school previously evaluated as satisfactory will now be reported as having important areas for improvement.

The co-ordinators make good use of both qualitative and quantitative data to identify strengths and areas for improvement within the provision and to support all staff in the development of the strategic priorities of the school. Improvements in the quality of the provision of numeracy and literacy are now evident across the school.

The quality of learning and teaching is now good. The impact of the range of professional development opportunities is clearly evident in the children's learning experiences throughout the school and in their improved learning outcomes. Almost all of the lessons observed throughout the follow-up process were evaluated as good or better with almost half being very good or better. The quality of the teachers' evaluations, which now focus more on individual children's ability and learning, has improved and informs well future planning.

The standards and achievements in English, Irish and mathematics remain good. The children are able to explain and assess their learning more effectively and evaluate the level of challenge in their work. They respond well to the more differentiated learning experiences. It will be important for all teachers to continue to build upon this and, in particular, to ensure that there is appropriate challenge for the more able children.

## **Conclusion**

Gaelscoil Ghleann Darach 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:

- the progression in learning for all children and, in particular, for the more able.

It continues to be important that the employing authority, governors and the staff plan for, and manage, issues related to the sustainability of the school in order to address the current and future needs of the children and the staff.

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