

## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of a Follow-up Inspection**

**Little Flower Girls' School  
Belfast**

**December 2015**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF LITTLE FLOWER GIRLS' SCHOOL, BELFAST, COUNTY ANTRIM, BT15 4DE (123-0089)**

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Little Flower Girls' School<sup>1</sup> in October 2013, when the quality of education was evaluated as satisfactory<sup>2</sup>.

The main areas for improvement were the need:

- for the senior leadership team to work in a more coherent and cohesive way to help improve further the standards;
- for the senior leadership team to undertake a strategic review of the key stage (KS) 4 curriculum; and
- to improve the quality of the provision in mathematics.

The school's action plans took appropriate account of the areas for improvement and were of a good quality. The school reports that it has received effective support from a range of external services, including the education authority.

The ETI carried out interim follow-up visits during 2014/15, with a follow-up inspection in December 2015.

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

- a new principal has been appointed;
- a new senior leadership team has been established;
- new leaders for KS 3, 4 and post-16 have been appointed;
- a new head of the mathematics department has recently been appointed;
- a comprehensive review of the ethos, values, vision, aims, objectives and associated behaviours of the school community has taken place;
- a strategic and inclusive review of the KS 4 curriculum has taken place;
- the school's enrolment into year eight has risen from 70 to 110 pupils; and
- the proportion of pupils entitled to free school meals has increased from 34% at the time of the original inspection to 56% this year.

---

<sup>1</sup> See inspection report at <http://www.etini.gov.uk/index/inspection-reports/inspection-reports-post-primary/inspection-reports-post-primary-2013/post-primary-inspection-little-flower-girls'-school-belfast.pdf>

<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.

## **Key findings**

- The commitment and effective strategic work of the senior leadership team is having a positive impact on the quality of the learning and teaching, the improving trend in the standards attained by the pupils and on raising further their aspirations.
- The revised and well-conceived curriculum at KS 4, which is flexible and tailored to meet more effectively the individual needs, abilities and career aspirations of the pupils.
- The quality of the provision for mathematics has improved significantly. The effectiveness of the learning and teaching in most of the lessons observed was very good or outstanding. The percentage of pupils achieving GCSE grades at A\* to C at GCSE has increased by 16 percentage points since the original inspection to 47%.
- The percentage of the pupils attaining five or more GCSE qualifications or equivalent at grades A\* to C, including English and mathematics, has improved from 31% at the time of the original inspection to 47%.
- The percentage of the pupils entitled to free school meals attaining five or more GCSE qualifications or equivalent at grades A\* to C, including English and mathematics, has more than doubled, from 16% at the time of the original inspection to 38% in June 2015.
- The effectiveness of the learning and teaching has improved; almost all of the lessons observed were effective (good or better) with just over three-quarters (76%) of them being highly effective (very good or better). The evidence is clear that the pupils engage much more actively and enthusiastically in their learning.
- The effective work by the school to improve the pupils' attendance, as exemplified by a 96% attendance rate for the pupils in year 12.

## **Overall effectiveness**

The school demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvements in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor how the school sustains improvement.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2015

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](http://www.etini.gov.uk)