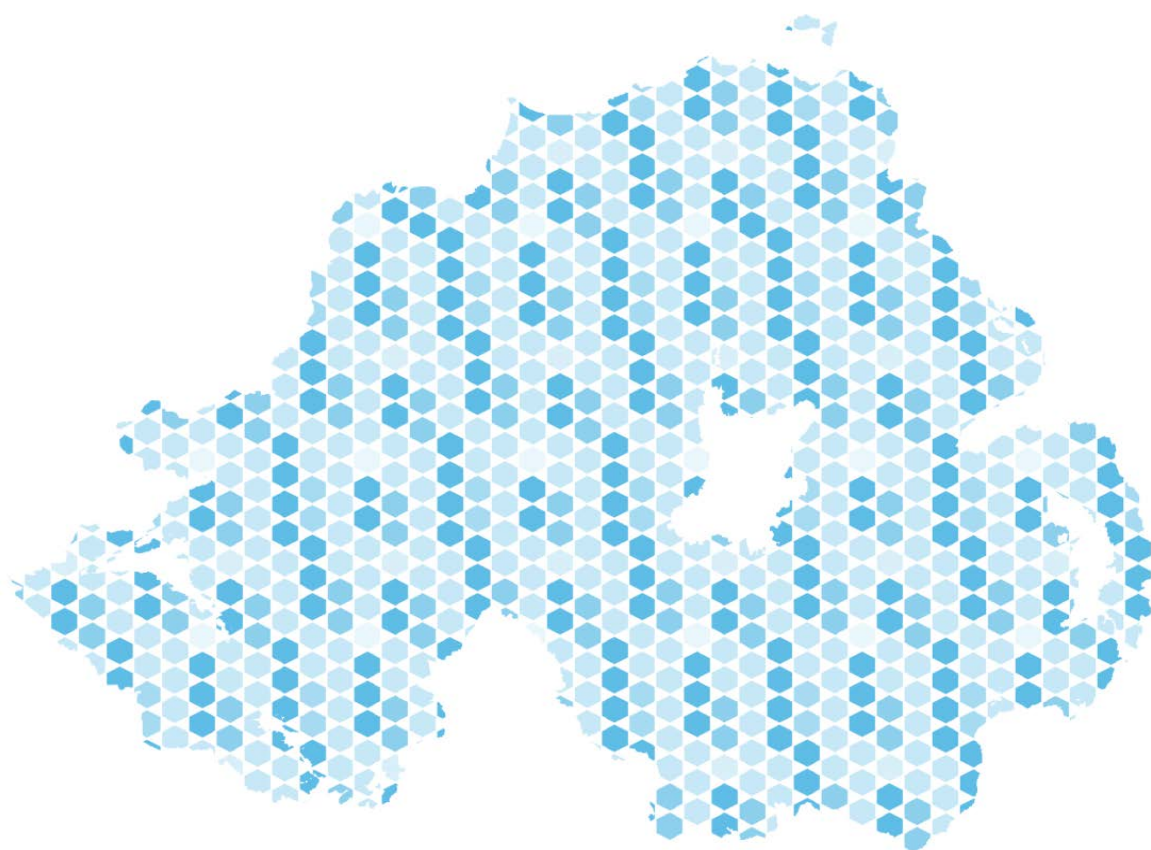


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Hollybank Primary School,
Monkstown, County Antrim

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Monitoring Inspection
in February 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments



Monitoring Inspection of Hollybank Primary School, County Antrim (301-6038)

Introduction

The aim of the Monitoring Inspection is to evaluate the extent to which the leadership and management uses self-evaluation effectively to inform the development planning process to bring about improvement. The outcome of the inspection will inform future inspection activity.

Focus of the inspection

The inspection focused on evaluating action to promote improvement and its impact on learning and teaching and outcomes for learners.

During the inspection, the lines of inquiry were selected from the development plan priorities; the school was asked to demonstrate if and how the actions taken have led to improvement for the learners. The lines of inquiry focused on the school's actions to:

- raise the standards in reading , including the children's comprehension skills and enjoyment of reading; and
- improve the levels of writing in key stage 2 using a greater range of vocabulary.

Key findings

- The new senior leadership team and co-ordinators evaluate priority areas through the analysis of both qualitative and quantitative data and, identify low and underachievement. The relevant staff development in guided reading has resulted in a consistent approach to the planning and evaluation of reading sessions across the key stages.
- By the end of key stage two, the children are increasingly confident to write for a range of purposes and are beginning to self-assess using levelled targets to improve the standard of their work.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that satisfactory arrangements for safeguarding reflect broadly the guidance issued by the relevant Departments.

Work on the following aspects is underway and needs to be completed:

- awareness training for the new governors; and
- ensuring parents are all fully aware of the key policy documents.

Conclusion

At the time of inspection, and for the lines of inquiry selected, areas for improvement have been identified.

These include the need to:

- continue to raise the standards of the children's literacy skills and the integration of reading, writing, talking and listening to real life and meaningful contexts across the curriculum; and
- focus more consistently the evaluations of learning and teaching at all levels on the outcomes for the children.

These will be reflected in future inspection arrangements.

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