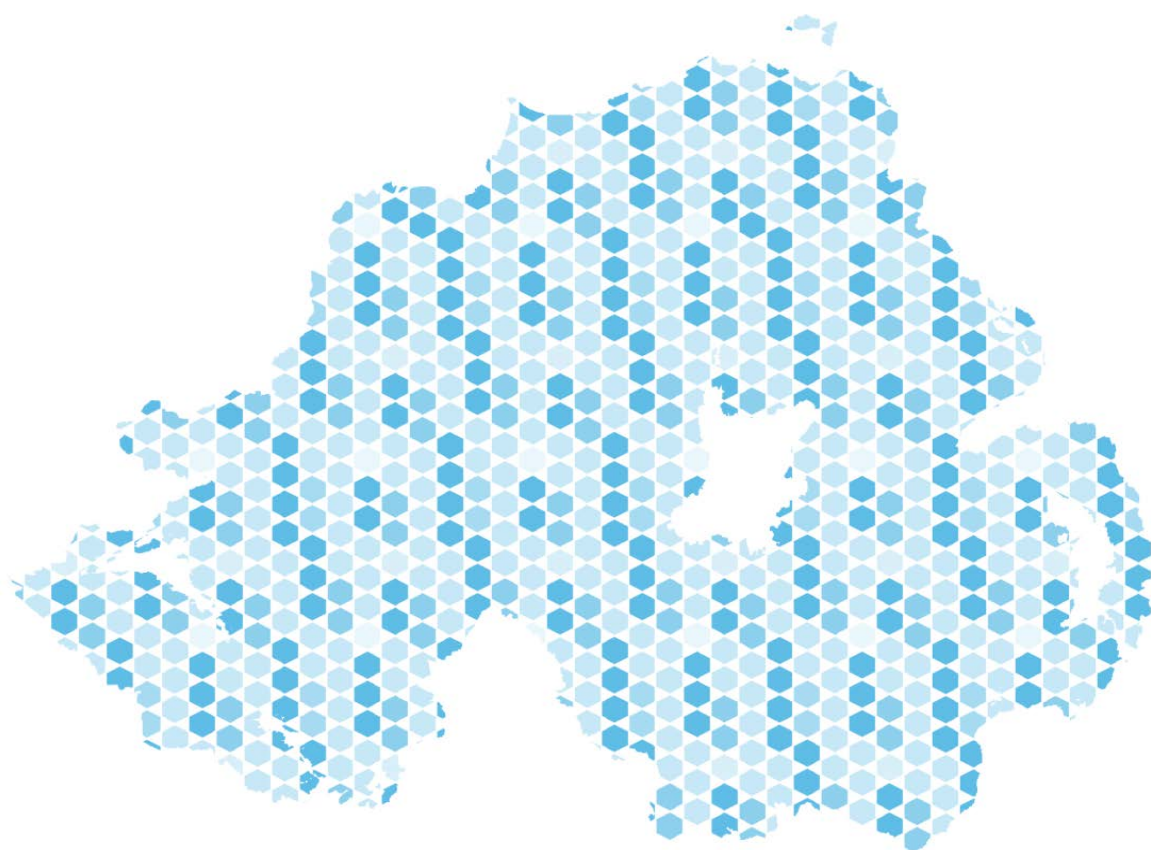


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

The Thompson Primary School,
Ballyrobert, County Antrim

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Monitoring Inspection
in January 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 The Thompson Primary School, Ballyrobert, County Antrim (301-0779)

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, lines of inquiry were selected from the school 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:

- track and analyse the children's progress in numeracy and literacy; and
- identify children who underachieve in literacy and numeracy and implement programmes of intervention to support them in addressing the area of specific need.

Key findings

- There is an effective system to record and track the children's progress in literacy and numeracy and to identify appropriately the trends in learning and teaching. The broad range of data is used well to inform the whole-school development planning process.
- The programme of withdrawal support, for those children identified as requiring help with aspects of their learning, is effective in raising the standards of literacy and numeracy. There are, however, inconsistencies in the mainstream classes regarding the planning for, and implementation of, differentiation in the learning activities to meet the needs of all children.

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 aspect is underway and needs to be completed:

- Pedestrian and vehicular access to the school site from the adjacent roads represents a significant risk to the safety of the children and staff.

Conclusion

At the time of inspection, and for the lines of inquiry selected, the school is identifying and bringing about the necessary improvements in the quality of education. This will be reflected in future inspection arrangements.

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