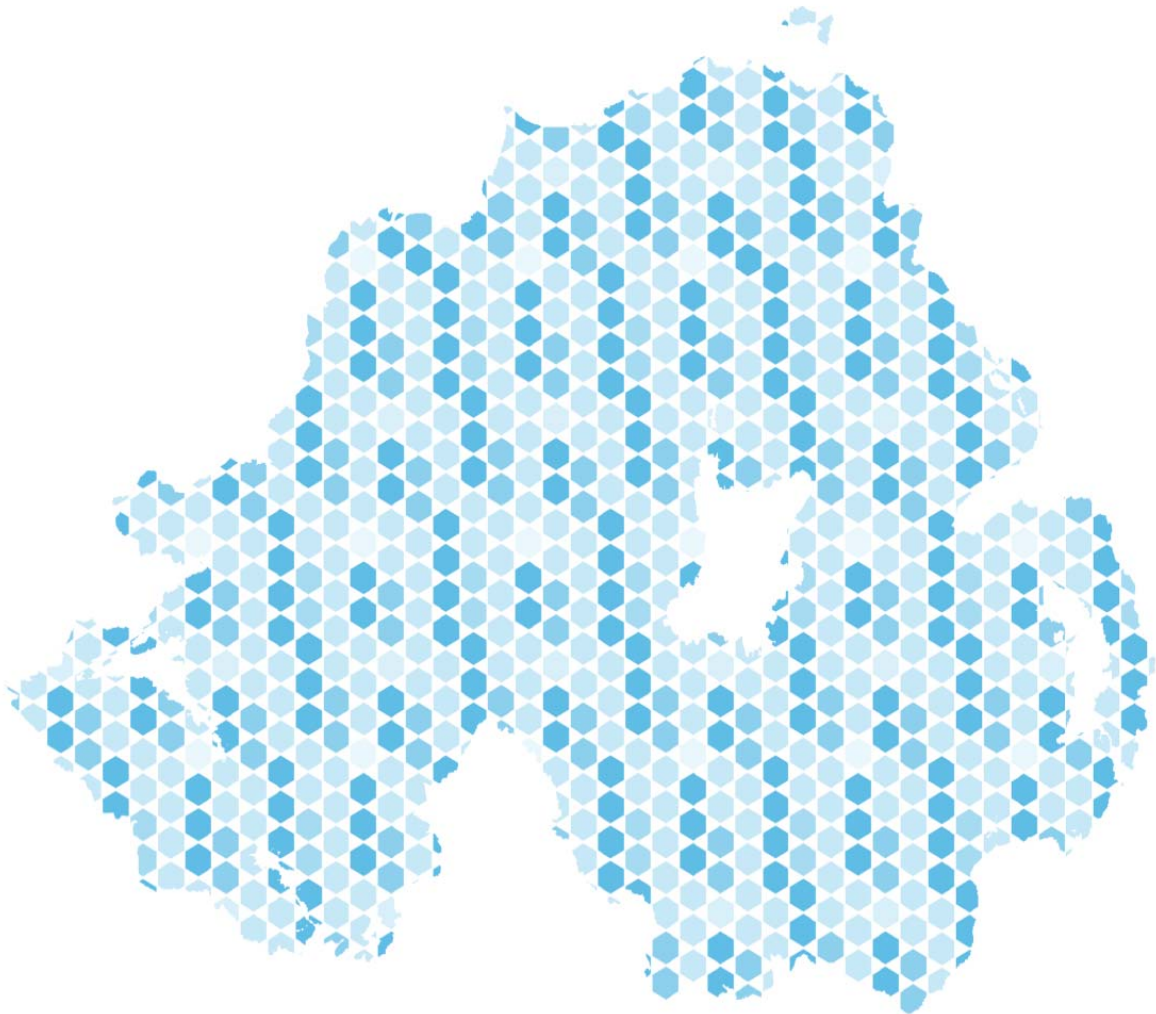


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

St Patrick's Primary School,  
Derrygonnelly

Report of an Inspection  
in January 2010

*eti*

*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
Promoting Improvement*

Providing Inspection Services for

Department of Education  
Department for Employment and Learning  
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

In this report, proportions may be described as percentages, common fractions and in more general quantitative terms. Where more general terms are used, they should be interpreted as follows:

Almost/nearly all	-	more than 90%
Most	-	75%-90%
A majority	-	50%-74%
A significant minority	-	30%-49%
A minority	-	10%-29%
Very few/a small number	-	less than 10%

In assessing the various features of the provision, the Inspectorate relate their evaluations to six descriptors as set out below:

DESCRIPTOR
Outstanding
Very Good
Good
Satisfactory
Inadequate
Unsatisfactory

## BASIC INFORMATION SHEET (BIS) - PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- A. i. **School: St Patrick's Primary Derrygonnelly**  
 ii. **School Reference Number: 203-1874**  
 iii. **Date of Inspection: W/B 11/01/10**  
 iv. **Nature of Inspection: Short**

B.

School Year	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Year 1 Intake	15	18	24	12	17
<b>Enrolments</b>					
Primary	132	136	140	130	128
Reception	6	5	2	5	3
Nursery Unit	0	0	0	0	0
Special Unit	0	0	0	0	0
Irish Medium Unit	0	0	0	0	0

The enrolment for the current year is the figure on the day of notification of inspection. For previous years it is the figure in the annual return to the Department of Education.

The calculations at C and D should be based on the total of the primary and reception enrolments only.

- C. Average Attendance for the Previous School Year  
 (expressed as a percentage):

96% NI Avg Att: 94.9%

Primary & Reception	Nursery Unit	Special Unit	Irish Medium Unit
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- D. i. Number of Teachers  
 (including the principal and part-time teachers): 7      0      0      0  
 (Full-time equivalent = 25 teaching hours)
- ii. PTR (Pupil/Teacher Ratio): 19.1      NI PTR: 20.4
- iii. Average Class Size: 18
- iv. Class Size (Range): 11 to 22
- v. Ancillary Support:  
 Number of Hours **Per Week**:
- |   |      |
|---|------|
| i. Clerical support:  | 25   |
| ii. Foundation Stage Classroom Assistant Support:           | 37.5 |
| iii. Additional hours of other classroom assistant support: | 10   |
- vi. Percentage of children with statements of special educational needs: 0.03%
- vii. Total percentage of children on the Special Needs Register: 24.8%
- viii. Number of children who are **not** of statutory school age: 3
- ix. Percentage of children entitled to free school meals: 19%
- x. Percentage of children at the end of Key Stage 2 for 2008/09 who attained level 4 and above in English and mathematics: **English** 94.12%      **Mathematics** 100%

**ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, DERRYGONNELLY, ENNISKILLEN,  
CO FERMANAGH, BT93 6LR (203-1874)**

**SCHOOL CONTEXT**

St Patrick's Primary School is situated in the village of Derrygonnelly, Co Fermanagh. Almost all of the children come from the village and surrounding rural area. The enrolment has fluctuated over recent years and currently stands at 128 children. At the time of the inspection, 19% of the children were entitled to free school meals and 25% of the children required additional support with aspects of their learning.

**FOCUS**

The inspection focused on:

- the children's achievements and standards in literacy and numeracy;
- the quality of provision for learning; and
- the quality of leadership and management.

**THE VIEWS OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, GOVERNORS AND CHILDREN**

The arrangements for the inspection included the opportunity for the parents to complete a confidential questionnaire prior to the inspection. Of the 87 questionnaires issued to the parents; 43 were returned to the Department of Education (DE), including 12 which contained additional written comments. Most of the parental questionnaires and written comments indicated very high levels of satisfaction with all aspects of school life; particular reference was made to the good progress made by children across the ability range, the extent to which teachers are familiar with the individual needs of the children and the safe and secure environment in which the children are taught. A small number of parents raised concerns about the school's response to issues reported regarding their children's education. The issues arising from the parental questionnaires were shared with the Principal and the Chair of the governors and are addressed in the body of the report.

On the first day of the inspection, the Chair and a representative of the governors met the inspection team and expressed appreciation for the work of the school in particular the quality of education which the children of all abilities receive.

All of the teaching staff responded to the online teacher questionnaire, including six that included written comments. The teachers' responses were wholly positive about the work and life of the school. In particular the staff highlighted the excellent working relationships and the good attitudes the children have to their work.

The inspectors also met with a group of the children from years 6 and 7 who talked enthusiastically about the range of curricular activities and in particular their enjoyment of mathematical activities. The children appreciated the support their teachers provide and are aware of what to do if they have concerns about their safety and well-being.

## PASTORAL CARE

The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care in the school is very good; the Principal and the staff are committed to the children in their care. The teachers have high expectations of the children, encouraging them to take pride in their work. The children are friendly and courteous to visitors; their behaviour is exemplary. An important feature of the pastoral provision is the wide range and very good quality of the documentation which guides effectively the school's work in this area.

## CHILD PROTECTION

The school has very good arrangements in place for safeguarding children. These arrangements broadly reflect the guidance issued in the relevant DE circulars.

## HEALTHY EATING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The school gives very good attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity, for example, through the provision of high quality school meals, the strong focus given to health promotion and the encouragement given to adopt healthy lifestyles.

The strengths of the school include:

- the very good quality of the pastoral care provision which supports effectively the children's holistic development;
- the outstanding provision in meeting the needs of the children requiring additional support with aspects of their learning;
- the quality of the teaching observed, which was consistently very good;
- the very good standards achieved by the children, including those with special educational needs, in literacy and numeracy;
- the very good quality and effective use made of the School Development Plan, including the school's process of self evaluation, and the effective use of data to promote school improvement; and
- the very effective leadership and management of the Principal, who encourages a team approach to promoting improvement.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is very good. The school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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