

PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Andrews Memorial Primary School,
Comber, County Down

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Sustaining
Improvement Inspection
in May 2018

eti

The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

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CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



Sustaining Improvement Inspection of Andrews Memorial Primary School, Comber, County Down, BT23 5PG (401-6126)

Introduction

The previous inspection in May 2015 evaluated the overall effectiveness of Andrews Memorial Primary School as good.¹ A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 17 May 2018.

Focus of the inspection

The inspection focused on evaluating the extent to which the school is capable of demonstrating its capacity to effect improvement through self-evaluation and effective school development planning. The school also provided evidence of provision for safeguarding as part of the inspection.

The lines of inquiry during the SII were to:

- raise further the quality of the children's learning experience across the curriculum by merging the use of digital technologies with more traditional approaches; and
- enhance pastorally the children's resilience and well-being through initiatives, such as, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) 'Keeping Safe' project supported by a programme that promotes positive emotional engagement with their learning.

Key findings

- The school has attained a Digital Schools Award, the achievement of which is reflected in the confidence and ease with which the majority of the children used the technology to support their learning in most of the lessons observed. The children's ready engagement reflected the teachers' collaborative planning for the progressive integration of new technologies. In a discussion with a selection of year six and seven 'digital leaders', the children spoke in an informed and enthused way about the positive impact the new technologies are having on their learning experiences.
- The staff provide a purposeful range of programmes and opportunities for the children to increase their resilience, sense of self-worth and confidence. The outworking of this was evident in the awards distributed at the assembly, where the children's efforts were rewarded as much as their achievements, and the ease with which many of them were able to discuss their learning. The children interacted effectively in paired and group work and gave thoughtful and lengthy responses to the effective questioning from their teachers which characterised the lessons observed, the majority of which were very good.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect the guidance from the Department of Education.

Conclusion

Andrews Memorial Primary School continues to demonstrate the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will continue to monitor how the school sustains improvement.

¹ From September 2015, a school evaluated previously as good has been reported as the school demonstrating the capacity to identify and bring about improvement.

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