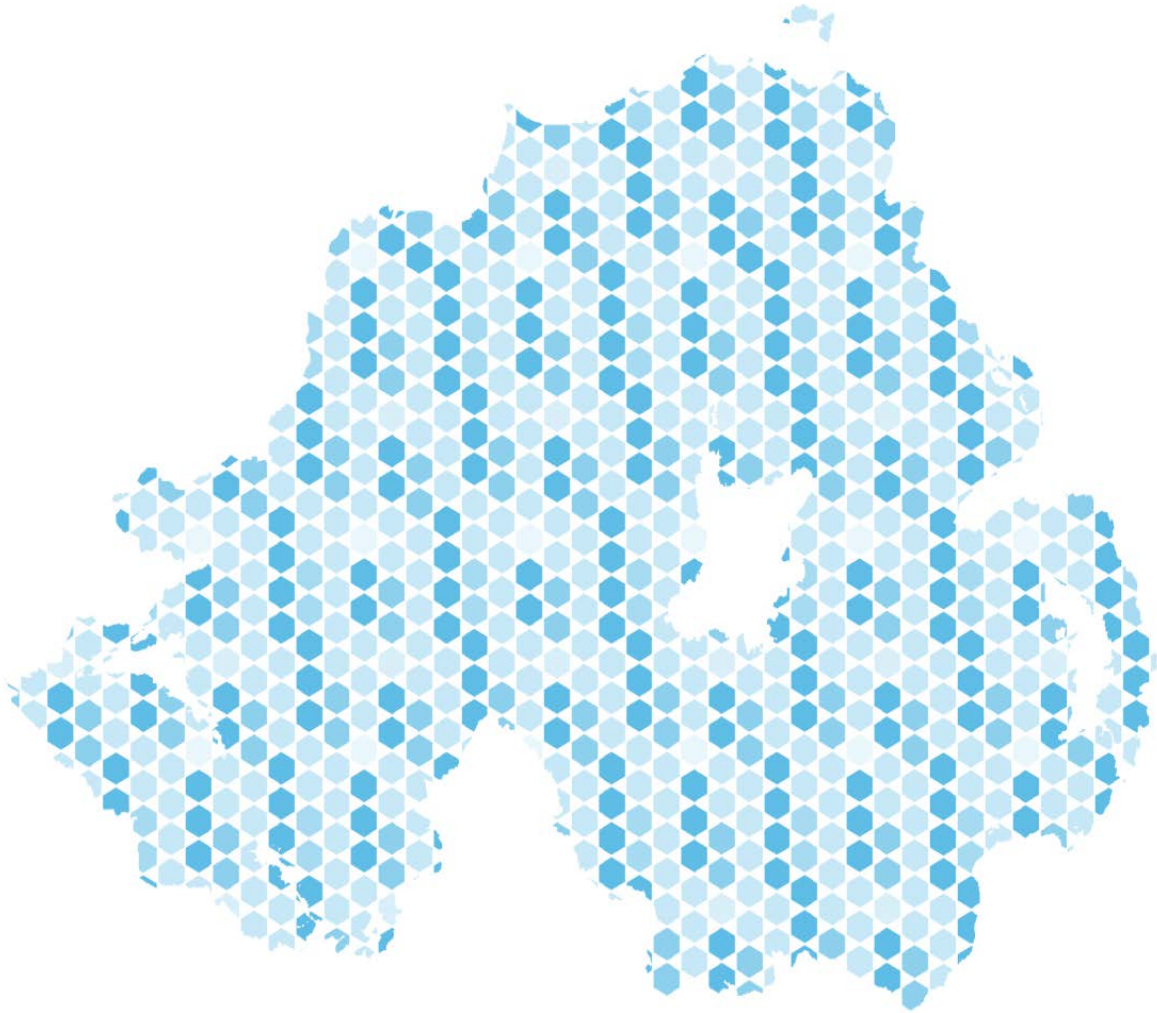


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Donegall Road Primary School,  
Belfast

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Sustaining  
Improvement Inspection  
in June 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate  
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education  
Department for the Economy  
and other commissioning Departments



# **Sustaining Improvement Inspection of Donegall Road Primary School, Belfast (101-6060)**

## **Introduction**

The previous inspection in May 2014 evaluated the overall effectiveness of Donegall Road Primary School as good<sup>1</sup>. In the interim, there has been a significant increase, each year, in the school's enrolment. The school has identified two-fifths of the children as having special educational needs, an increase from one-quarter of the children at the time of the last inspection. The school has attained the Eco Schools Flag Award, and the school has participated successfully in a number of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) competitions. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 12 and 13 June 2017.

## **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:

- the capacity of leadership at all levels to evaluate the impact of action planning against the ongoing improvements in the children's achievements and standards; and
- the quality of the children's learning experiences and their outcomes in the area of problem-solving in numeracy.

## **Key findings**

- There is a collegial, systematic approach to school development planning and the associated action planning. The senior leaders and the co-ordinators of all areas of responsibility monitor and review regularly and robustly the progress being made in addressing the areas for development prioritised in the action plans. The effective analysis of data and appropriate consultation with the children, parents, staff and governors help to inform this review.
- The planning of, and the provision for, the area of problem solving in numeracy caters well for the learning needs of most of the children and allows for progression in the development of their mathematical skills. The children engage well in this area of the curriculum, demonstrating good mathematical language and enjoyment. In discussions with the more able children, they have a good knowledge of all areas of numeracy, particularly in mental mathematics, and they used appropriate mathematical language to explain their thinking. The school has identified the need to build further on the existing effective practice to ensure consistency in the quality of the learning experiences for all of the children.

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<sup>1</sup> A school evaluated previously as good has been reported as the school demonstrating the capacity to identify and bring about improvement.

## **Safeguarding**

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding reflect the guidance issued by the relevant Departments. The children reported that they feel safe; they know what to do and who to talk to if they have any concerns.

## **Conclusion**

Donegall Road 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.

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