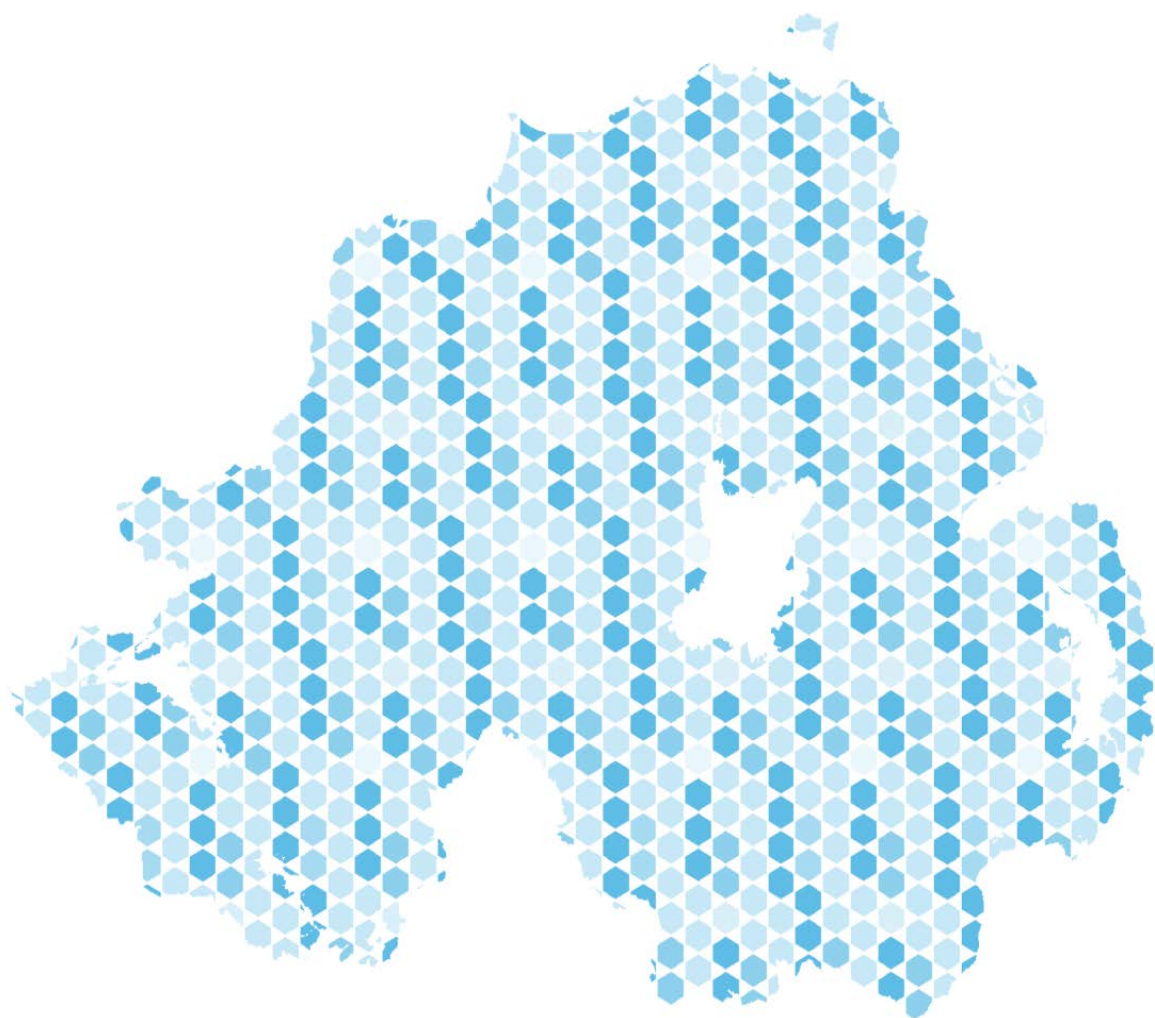


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Moorfields Primary School,
Ballymena, County Antrim

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 Moorfields Primary School, Ballymena, County Antrim (301-0818)

Introduction

In the last inspection held in September 2013, Moorfields Primary School was evaluated overall as good¹. In the interim, a new principal and vice-principal have been appointed and the board of governors was reconstituted. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on the 5 and 6 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:

- improving the strategies for monitoring and evaluating the impact of learning and teaching on the standards the children attain, in particular, the more effective use of assessment data to inform whole school strategic planning; and
- developing further the learning and teaching within numeracy with a particular focus on mental mathematics.

Key findings

- The school development plan has been devised through appropriate consultation and identifies relevant priorities along with associated action plans to bring about improvement in the learning experiences for, and the outcomes achieved by, the children. The culture of self-evaluation is becoming more embedded at all levels; the senior leadership, co-ordinators and class teachers monitor and evaluate appropriately all aspects of the provision and the impact on the children's learning. The staff are using more effectively and strategically a relevant range of assessment data to inform the developments in literacy and numeracy for individual children, year groups and across the key stages.
- The teachers' recent focus on improving the provision for mental mathematics has resulted in the children developing greater confidence and accuracy in applying a wider range of mathematical strategies. Overall, the children's standards in numeracy are very good.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding reflect² the guidance issued by the relevant Departments. The children reported that they feel safe in the school and that they are aware of what to do if they have any concerns about their safety or welfare.

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

² From January 2017, arrangements evaluated previously as comprehensive are reported as reflect the guidance.

Conclusion

Moorfields 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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