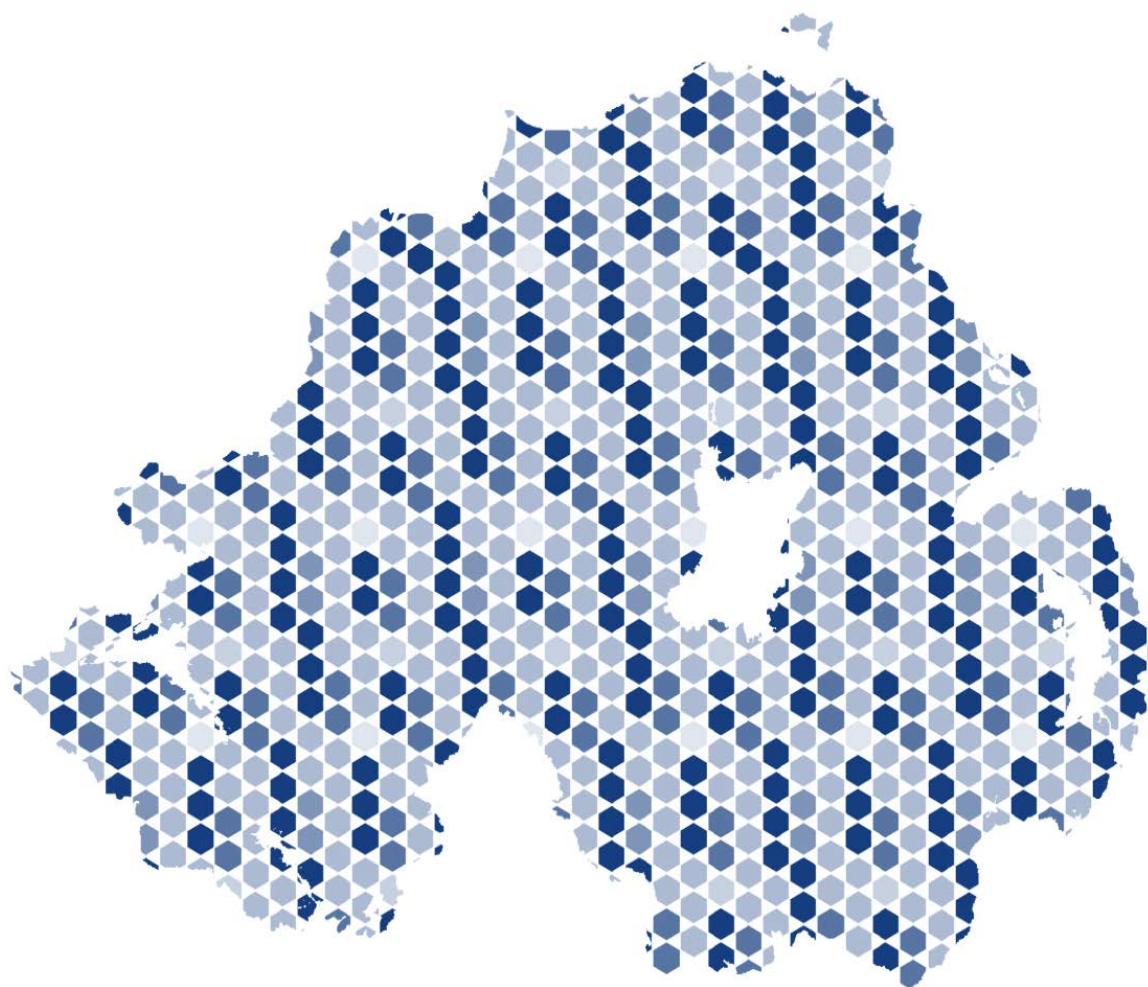


POST-PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

The Royal Belfast Academical
Institution, Belfast

All-boys, 11-18, voluntary 'B' grammar school

Report of a Sustaining
Improvement Inspection
in February 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments

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Sustaining Improvement Inspection of The Royal Belfast Academical Institution (142-0027)

Introduction

The previous inspection in April 2014 evaluated the overall effectiveness of the quality of education at The Royal Belfast Academical Institution as good¹. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 6 and 7 February 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 development of:

- a more appropriate curriculum provision in order to meet the interests, abilities and career aspirations of all of the pupils; and
- the capacity of middle leadership to effect improvement.

Key findings

- The school has effected improvement in the breadth, balance and flexibility of the pastoral and academic curriculum; the resultant changes have impacted positively on the pupils' learning experiences and the outcomes they attain.
- There is significant engagement by the middle leaders in high quality professional learning, which is empowering them to address effectively the strategic priorities identified in the school development plan. The appropriate use of pastoral and performance data, and the effective dissemination of exemplary practice, have enhanced the capacity of middle leaders to bring about improvement in their areas of responsibility.

Safeguarding

During the sustaining improvement inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding continue to reflect² the guidance issued by the Department of Education.

Conclusion

The Royal Belfast Academical Institution 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 previously evaluated as good has been reported as the school demonstrating the capacity to identify and bring about improvement.

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

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