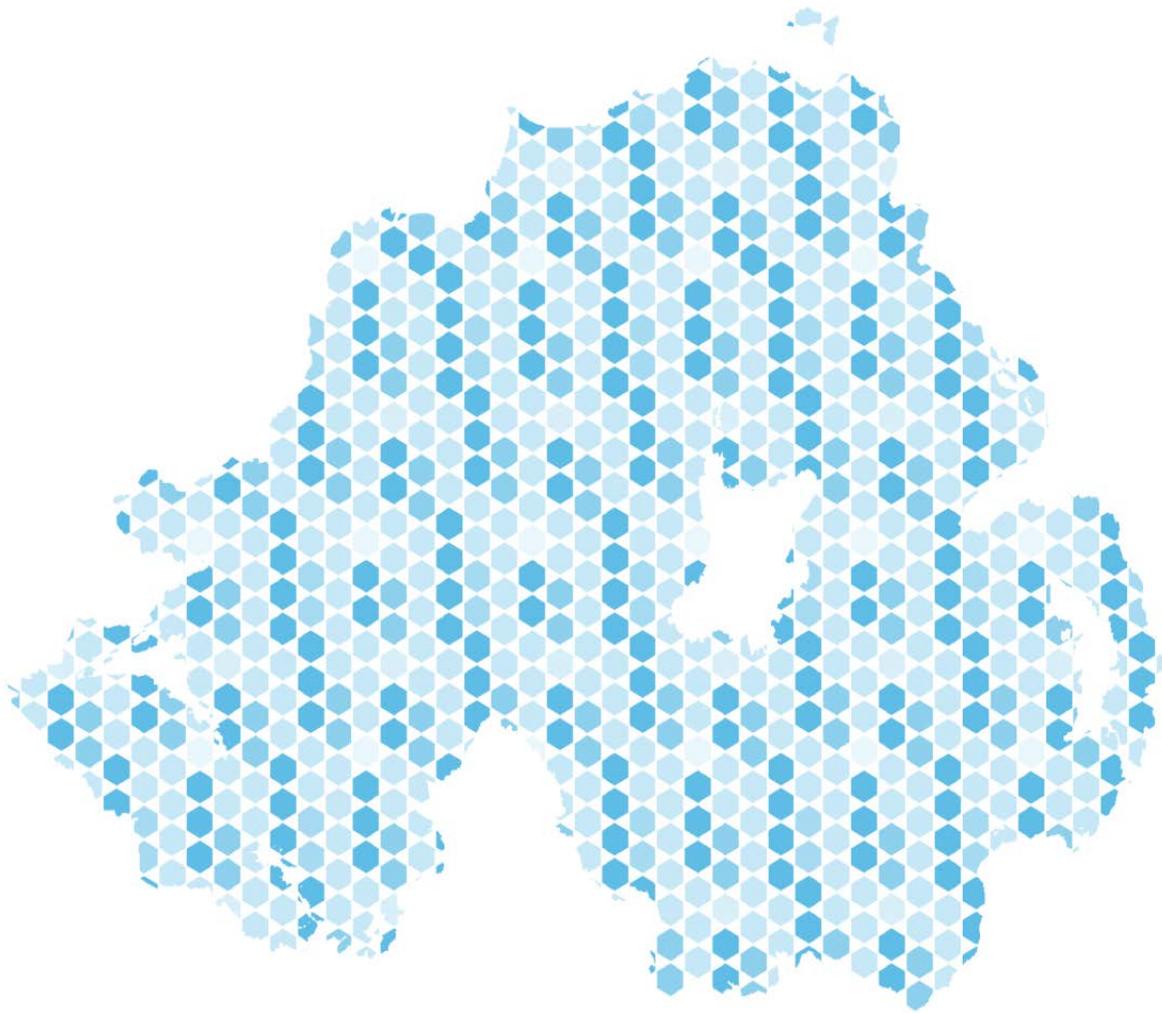


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Knocknagoney Primary School,
Belfast

Report of a Sustaining
Improvement Inspection
in February 2016



Providing Inspection Services for

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



Sustaining Improvement Inspection of Knocknagoney Primary School, Belfast (101-3018)

In the last inspection held in November 2012, Knocknagoney Primary School was evaluated overall as very good. A Sustaining Improvement Inspection (SII) was conducted on 11 February 2016. The purpose of the SII is to evaluate the extent to which the school is capable of demonstrating that it has sustained its capacity to effect improvement through self-evaluation and effective school development planning. The school was asked to select, from the current priorities in the school development plan (SDP), two key priorities to demonstrate to the ETI the effectiveness of the school's actions to continued improvement.

The two key areas identified by the school for the inspection were the:

- development of literacy with a focus on spelling, grammar and handwriting; and
- development of information and communication technology (ICT).

Key findings

There is clear evidence of progress being made on the areas identified within the school development plan. With the introduction of new recording systems and additional standardised tests, more effective use is being made of the school's internal data to track the achievement and progress of the children and to identify the most appropriate additional support for those children who require it. The recent focus on the development of ICT has impacted very positively on the confidence and skills of both the children and the teachers. The children are highly motivated learners and they make good use of ICT as a tool for learning. The work on literacy, focusing on the development of spelling, grammar and handwriting, has increased greatly the children's confidence in their independent writing which is now of a good standard.

Since the inspection in 2012, the school enrolment has continued to grow very rapidly with a corresponding increase in the number of teaching and support staff. The senior management team and co-ordinators continue to provide highly effective strategic leadership. The collegial approach to school improvement has been enhanced further by the introduction of curricular teams, the school's engagement in cluster groups with local schools and the involvement in cross-phase curriculum development in literacy, numeracy and ICT with local post-primary schools.

Conclusion

Knocknagoney Primary School continues to demonstrate a high level of capacity for sustained self-improvement in the interests of the children. The ETI will continue to monitor how the school sustains improvement.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2016

This report is supplied in confidence.