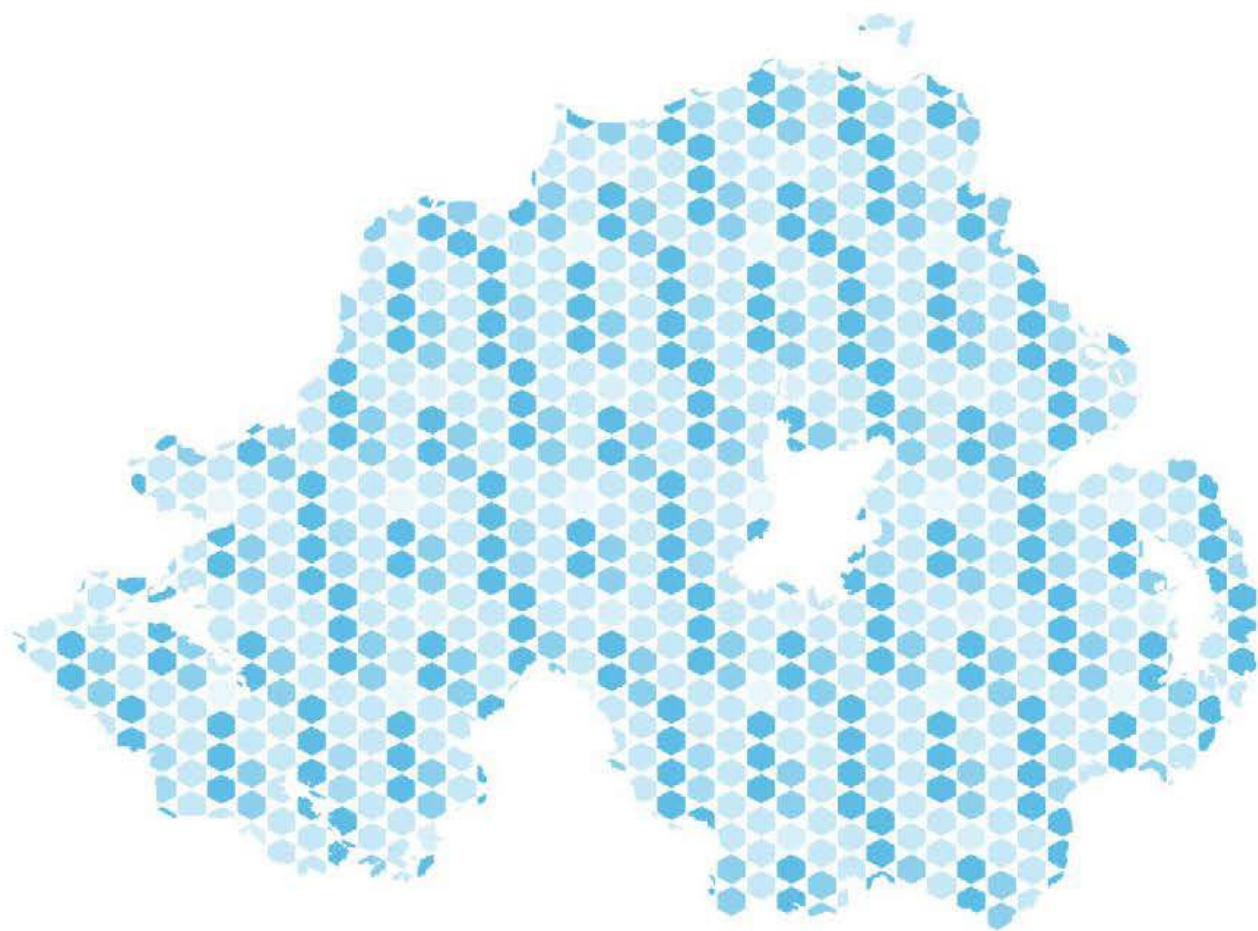


# Education and Training Inspectorate PRIMARY INSPECTION



## Gaelscoil Uí Néill, Oileán an Ghuail, Contae Thír Eoghain/ County Tyrone

Irish-medium, co-educational DE Ref No (504-6637)

Report of a Follow-up Inspection (Involving Action Short of Strike) in  
March 2019



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## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF GAELSCOIL UÍ NÉILL, COALISLAND, COUNTY TYRONE BT71 4PU (504-6637)**

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out a follow-up inspection of Gaelscoil Uí Néill in [October 2017](#), which concluded that the school needed to address an important area for improvement in the interest of all the learners. The area for improvement was:

- leadership and management, at all levels, need to embed the processes of monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the identified priorities and associated action plans effect improvement in the children's learning experiences and outcomes.

The school's action plans were of a good quality. The school's development plan was adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The ETI carried out an interim follow-up visit in June 2018 and a second follow-up inspection in March 2019.

Four of the teaching unions which make up the Northern Ireland Teachers' Council (NITC) have declared industrial action primarily in relation to a pay dispute. This includes non-co-operation with the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI). Prior to the inspection, the school informed the ETI that none of the teachers would be engaging with the inspection. The ETI have a statutory duty to monitor, inspect and report on the quality of education under Article 102 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986. Therefore, the inspection proceeded and the following evaluations are based on the evidence as made available at the time of the inspection.

In the interval since the initial follow-up inspection, the school has received external support provided by the Education Authority in relation to aspects of learning and teaching.

During this period, other actions or changes which affect the work of the school include:

- a senior leadership team has not been in operation during the 2018-19 year;
- there are now three composite classes in the school;
- all staff and a range of representatives from the wider school community participated in a vision and ethos development day;
- a computerised reading programme has been introduced to the school and staff in upper key stage (KS) 1 and KS 2 have received training;
- a school library has been developed;
- a new school website has been developed and social media is now used as a means of communication;

- the introduction of a school council and primary 7 prefects provides opportunities for the children to take on roles of responsibility;
- a range of initiatives and interventions is now in place as a result of extended school funding, including a breakfast club, information and communication technology (ICT) cluster with other schools and speech and language therapy; and
- staff and child partnerships have been developed with other schools.

### **Key findings**

Owing to action short of strike, the ETI was unable to evaluate the following area for improvement:

- leadership and management, at all levels, need to embed the processes of monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the identified priorities and associated action plans effect improvement in the children's learning experiences and outcomes.

Consequently, there remains a need for Gaelscoil Uí Néill to address an important area for improvement (the Department of Education will seek assurance from the Education Authority that they are working with the school in relation to the inspection report).

### **Conclusion**

Owing to the impact of the action short of strike being taken by the staff, the ETI is unable to assure parents/carers, the wider school community and stakeholders of the quality of education being provided for the children. The school is a high priority for future inspection with no further notice.

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