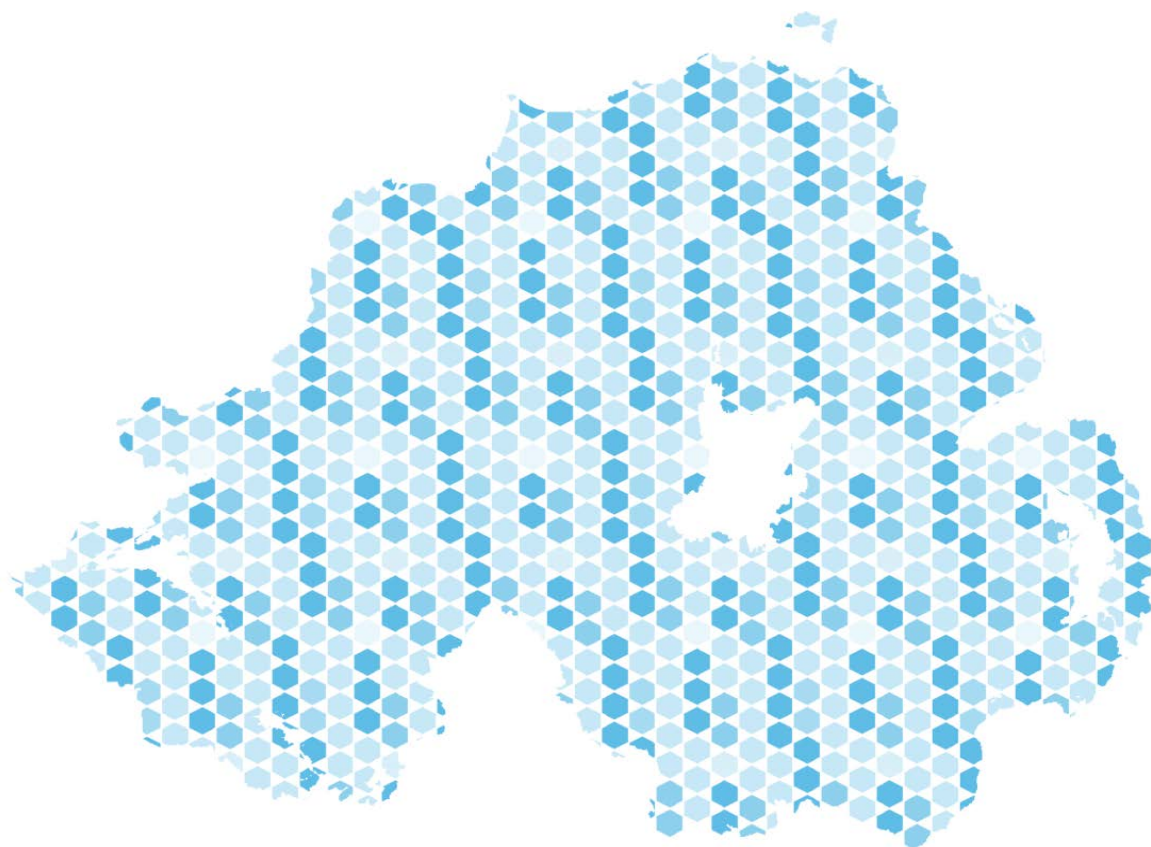


PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

St Patrick's Primary School,
Augher, County Tyrone

Maintained, co-educational

Report of a Monitoring Inspection
(Involving Action Short of Strike)
in January 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments



Monitoring Inspection of St Patrick's Primary School, Augher, County Tyrone (503-2697)

Introduction

The aim of the Monitoring Inspection is to evaluate the extent to which the leadership and management uses self-evaluation effectively to inform the development planning process to bring about improvement. The outcome of the inspection will inform future inspection activity.

Four of the teaching unions which make up the Northern Ireland Teachers' Council have declared Action Short of Strike in relation to a pay dispute. This includes non co-operation with the ETI. Prior to the inspection, the school informed the ETI that all of the teachers, the principal and board of governors would not be co-operating with the inspectors. The ETI has 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.

Focus of the inspection

Due to the school's participation in industrial action, the inspection was unable to focus on evaluating action to promote improvement and its impact on learning and teaching and outcomes for learners.

As a result, lines of inquiry were not selected from the development plan priorities; the school did not demonstrate if and how the actions taken have led to improvement for the learners.

Key findings

Due to the non-participation of the principal and teachers in the inspection process, no key findings can be reported.

It will be important that the employing authority, school governors and the staff plan for, and manage, issues related to the sustainability of the school provision and school budget, in order to address the current and future needs of the children and the staff.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school did not provide evidence that satisfactory arrangements are in place for safeguarding learners.

Conclusion

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

The ETI will return to the school within six weeks to evaluate and report on the arrangements for safeguarding.

Health and safety / accommodation

1. At the time of the Monitoring Inspection the secure access gate to two new mobile classrooms had yet to be fitted.

ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT ON THE MONITORING INSPECTION OF ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, AUGHER, COUNTY TYRONE, IN JANUARY 2017

The school was afforded a further opportunity to provide evidence on its arrangements for safeguarding; owing to action short of strike, the school had not provided evidence that satisfactory arrangements were in place at the time of the Monitoring Inspection on 12 January 2017.

On 21 February 2017 the school informed ETI that it would not be co-operating with a six-week follow-up visit to monitor and report on arrangements for safeguarding.

Owing to ongoing action short of strike, the school did not provide evidence that satisfactory safeguarding arrangements are in place for safeguarding learners.

Further action will be considered by the Department of Education.

ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, AUGHADARRAGH, AUGHIER, COUNTY TYRONE, JANUARY 2017

SAFEGUARDING

The ETI returned to the school on 14 September 2017 to monitor and report on arrangements for safeguarding.

The purpose of the visit was to provide the school with a further opportunity to provide evidence on its arrangements for safeguarding; owing to action short of strike, the school did not provide evidence that satisfactory arrangements were in place at the time of the inspection in January 2017.

During the follow-up visit, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding reflect broadly the guidance issued by the Department of Education.

The children reported that they feel safe in school. They know what to do and who to talk to if they are concerned about their safety or well-being.

Owing to the ongoing action short of strike, the ETI was unable to evaluate fully the outworking of the arrangements for safeguarding in the school.

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