

PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Maguiresbridge Primary School,
Enniskillen, County Fermanagh

Controlled, co-educational

Report of an Inspection (Involving
Action Short of Strike) in
May 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
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INTRODUCTION

1. Context

Maguiresbridge Primary School is a controlled primary school situated in the village of Maguiresbridge around nine miles from Enniskillen. The children attending the school come from the village and the surrounding rural area. The enrolment has risen steadily over the past four years and the school is oversubscribed. The percentage of children entitled to free school meals has fluctuated over the past four years. The school has had a history of shared education partnership with a local maintained primary school and this partnership has been reinvigorated recently.

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 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 and the following evaluations are based on the evidence as made available at the time of the inspection.

Maguiresbridge Primary School	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Enrolment	104	107	115	126
% School attendance	96.9	97.2	97.8	N/A
% NI Primary school average	95.4	95.5	95.5	N/A
FSME Percentage ¹	38.5	33.6	27.0	28.0
No. of children on SEN register	26	24	28	35
% of children on SEN register	25.0	22.4	24.3	27
No. of children with statements of educational need	5	*	*	5

Source: data as held by the school.

* fewer than 5

2. Views of parents and staff

As a result of the action short of strike, the school did not distribute the confidential, online questionnaire information to parents and staff. Therefore, it is not possible to report on the views of parents and staff.

3. Focus of the inspection

The ETI was unable to evaluate:

- outcomes for children with a particular focus on literacy including across the curriculum;
- quality of provision with a particular focus on literacy; and
- quality of leadership and management.

¹ The term 'FSME Percentage' refers to the percentage of children entitled to free school meals.

4. Overall findings of the inspection

Overall effectiveness	Unable to assure of the quality of education
Outcomes for learners	No performance level available
Quality of provision	No performance level available
Leadership and management	No performance level available

KEY FINDINGS

5. Outcomes for learners

- The most able children in year 7 read with fluency, expression and good levels of understanding. In discussions with the inspectors, they spoke with confidence and enthusiasm about how the school encourages reading and about the books they read for pleasure.

The ETI was unable to evaluate fully:

- the learning outcomes for the children, including those who require additional support with aspects of their learning;
- progression in the children's learning; and
- the children's wider skills and dispositions.

6. Quality of provision

- There is evidence of a well-planned approach to the preventative curriculum throughout the school, for example, through assemblies and liaison with external agencies. In particular, the children were keen to discuss their 'Kids' Court' work targeting speeding motorists which they undertook through their shared education programme.
- In discussions with the inspectors, the children described the leadership roles available to them through, for example, the School- and Eco- Councils which allow them to contribute to the improvement of their school and community and to develop further their thinking skills and personal capabilities.

The ETI was unable to evaluate fully:

- the quality of the curriculum;
- the effectiveness of the guidance and support in bringing about high quality individual learning experiences;
- the effectiveness and impact of planning, teaching, learning and assessment in promoting successful learning; and
- care and welfare.

7. Leadership and management

- The school development plan is devised in consultation with the school community. It is further informed by the school's self-evaluation processes, including the effective use of a range of internal data. The associated action plans outline clearly the priorities for improvement and guide well the improvement process.

The ETI was unable to evaluate fully:

- the effectiveness of strategic leadership and governance;
- the effectiveness and impact of middle leadership; and
- the effectiveness of action to promote and sustain improvement.

8. Safeguarding

- During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect broadly the guidance from the Department of Education. In discussions with the inspectors, the children reported that they feel safe and happy in school and know whom to talk to if they have any concerns about their safety or well-being. However, owing to the action short of strike, the ETI was unable to evaluate fully the outworking of the arrangements for safeguarding in the school.

9. Overall effectiveness

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. This will be reflected in future inspection activity.

Inspection methodology and evidence base

The ETI's Inspection and Self-Evaluation Framework is available on the ETI website: [The Inspection and Self-Evaluation Framework \(ISEF\): Effective Practice and Self-Evaluation Questions for Primary | Education Training Inspectorate](#)

Inspectors observe learning and teaching, scrutinise documentation and the children's written work and hold formal and informal discussions with children, teachers and staff with specific responsibilities.

The arrangements for inspection include:

- a meeting with representatives from the governors;
- meetings with groups of children; and
- the opportunity for the parents, teaching and support staff to complete a confidential, online questionnaire.

Where, owing to the action short of strike, this evidence base was not available, it has been referenced in the body of the inspection report.

The arrangements for this inspection included:

- a meeting with representatives from the governors;
- a meeting with the principal;
- meetings with groups of children; and
- an opportunity to read documentation presented as supporting evidence of the safeguarding arrangements and school development plan.

Reporting terms used by the Education and Training Inspectorate

Quantitative terms

In this report, proportions may be described as percentages, common fractions and in more general quantitative terms. Where more general terms are used, they should be interpreted as follows:

Almost/nearly all	-	more than 90%
Most	-	75% - 90%
A majority	-	50% - 74%
A significant minority	-	30% - 49%
A minority	-	10% - 29%
Very few/a small number	-	less than 10%

Performance levels

The ETI use the following performance levels when reporting on outcomes for learners, quality of provision and leadership and management²:

Outstanding
Very good
Good
Important area(s) for improvement
Requires significant improvement
Requires urgent improvement

Overall effectiveness

The ETI use one of the following inspection outcomes when evaluating the overall effectiveness of the school:

The school has a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor how the school sustains improvement.
The school demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor how the school sustains improvement.
The school needs to address (an) important area(s) for improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing the area(s) for improvement. There will be a formal follow-up inspection in 12 to 18 months.
The school needs to address urgently the significant areas for improvement identified in the interest of all the learners. It requires external support to do so. The ETI will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing the areas for improvement. There will be a formal follow-up inspection in 18 to 24 months.

² And the overall provision in a unit, as applicable.

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