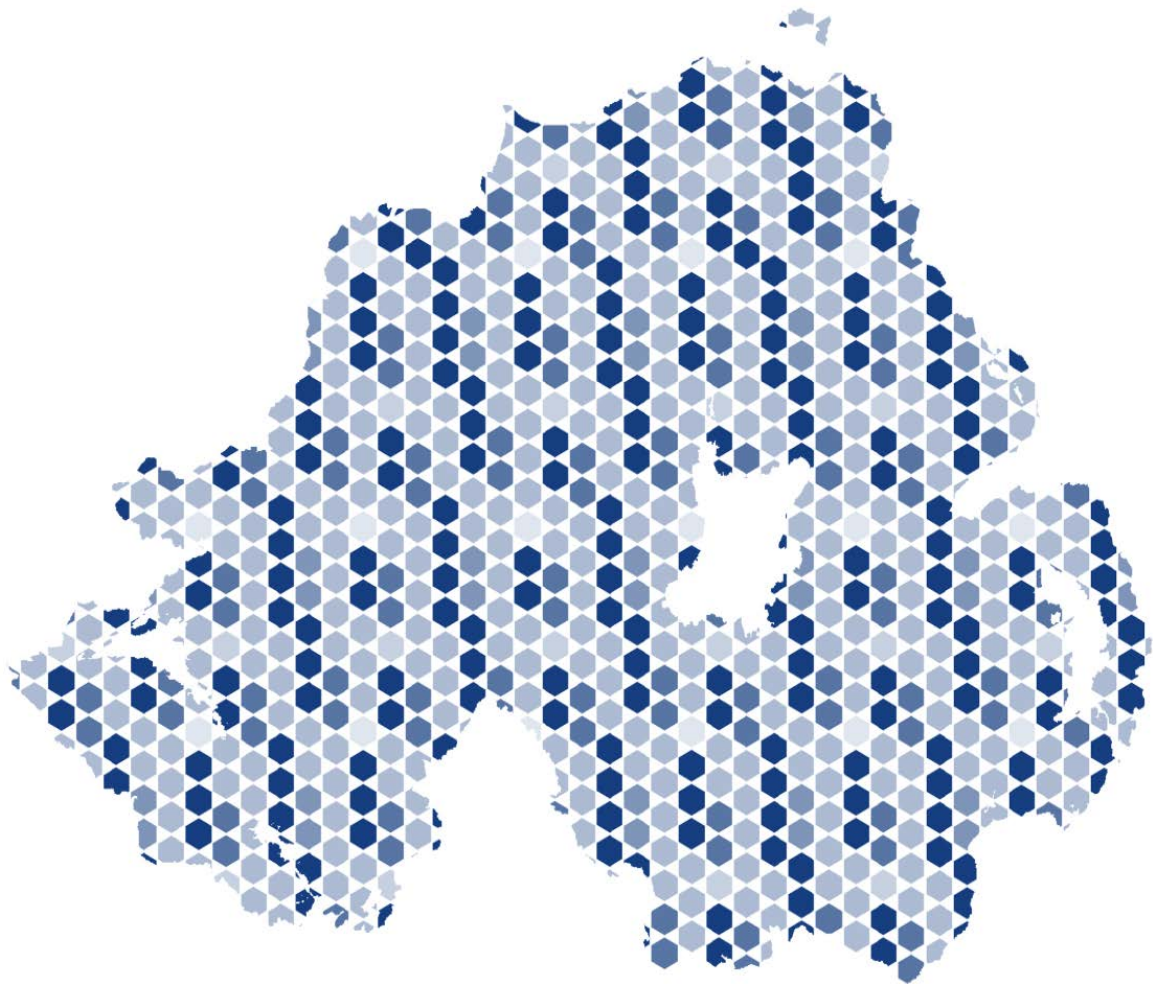


# POST-PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Glenlola Collegiate School,  
Bangor, County Down

Controlled, all girls', selective, 11-18 school

Report of a Follow-up Inspection  
in November 2016

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF GLENLOLA COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, BANGOR (441-0097)**

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Glenlola Collegiate School in February 2015<sup>1</sup> when aspects of the quality of education were evaluated as satisfactory<sup>2</sup>.

The main areas for improvement were the need to:

- develop and promote consistency in the quality of planning, learning, teaching and assessment by sharing and disseminating the good practice which exists;
- develop further the capacity at all levels to monitor and evaluate more effectively the impact of actions to promote and sustain improvement in provision and outcomes; and
- raise the overall standards achieved by the pupils, including the levels of attainment in public examinations across the school.

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 interim follow-up visits in November 2015 and April 2016, and a follow-up inspection in November 2016.

In the interval since the initial inspection, actions or changes which affect the work of the school include:

- the senior leadership team was restructured;
- a two-week timetable was introduced;
- a tracking system was established closely coupled to target-setting;
- a monitoring and accountability framework was implemented; and
- an education sub-committee of governors, with a particular focus on post-inspection improvements, was established.

### **Key Findings**

The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and action to promote improvement is now good.

The school has made good progress in developing and implementing the essential systems and arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the impact of their actions to promote improvement in the quality of the provision and the standards attained by the pupils.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.etini.gov.uk/publications/post-primary-inspection-glenlola-collegiate-school-bangor>

<sup>2</sup> From September 2015, the overall effectiveness of a school previously evaluated as satisfactory have been reported as having important areas for improvement.

The collation, analysis and understanding of assessment data is more effective, which is informing better the improvement process. There are now higher levels of accountability and transparency across the school, including within departments, which is leading to some important improvements; the education sub-committee of the board of governors provides good oversight to this and is supportive but also challenging.

The school has demonstrated awareness of, and has responded with sensitivity to, the impact that the increased emphasis on assessment, target-setting and tracking of pupil progress may have on the welfare of pupils.

Overall, achievement and standards remain an important area for improvement.

At GCSE grades A\* to B the standards attained by the pupils remain too low overall, with significant inconsistency across the subjects. At the headline level, in GCSE at grades A\* to C, the standards have, however, risen since the time of the original inspection.

In a short period of time, the school has made a number of changes to the curriculum offer to respond more appropriately to the range of needs, interests and abilities of the pupils; the strategies to monitor and evaluate the impact of curriculum changes on the standards attained by the pupils need to be further developed.

The provision for careers education, information, advice and guidance requires further improvement to ensure that the pupils are well enough informed about the career options and pathways that are most appropriate for them.

The professional openness of teachers and leaders across the school has enabled a more coherent approach to monitoring and evaluation of planning, learning, teaching and assessment to be developed. It is critical that this work is consolidated and developed further in order to raise expectations with regard to the pupils' progress in their learning and the standard they attain.

### **Overall Effectiveness**

Glenlola Collegiate School needs to address important areas for improvement. The follow-up inspection has identified the following areas for improvement:

- continue to raise standards consistently across all GCSE subjects, especially at grades A\* to B;
- to develop further the school's approach to the monitoring and evaluation of planning, learning, teaching and assessment in order to raise expectations with regard to the pupils' progress; and
- to broaden the scope and effectiveness of the careers provision across the school.

The ETI will conduct a further follow-up inspection in 12 to 18 months.

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