## Portstewart Primary School and Nursery Unit

## Inspection Summary Report - November 2024

- All of the children thrive in a high quality, inclusive learning environment that begins in nursery and extends across the whole school.
- The children, staff and parents are wholly invested in the new school vision of, 'Inspiring success, while caring for all'.
- The caring and committed teachers provide thoughtful and creative lessons, some with notable imagination, that allow the children to develop skills in problem solving, working with others and investigating real life issues.
- The learning support staff are a strength of the school's provision: they are skilful in responding proactively to the children's needs.
- The children are ready to learn, show kindness to others and have extremely positive dispositions to learning. They spoke about their learning using words like, "love", "enjoy", "fun" and "exciting", reflecting high levels of pleasure and engagement.
- Aspects of outdoor learning are highly effective and the leaders and staff recognise fully the benefits to the children of learning outdoors in both the school and nursery unit.
- The children progress well from differing starting points, including those with additional needs, and by the end of key stage 2 most achieve their expected outcomes, or above, in literacy and numeracy.
- The senior leaders' initiatives to develop curriculum teams is an excellent step forward in building further the capacity of the staff and their confidence in using and refining effective monitoring practices.

- The regular consultation processes and robust self-evaluation practices are leading to improvements in aspects of the provision.
- The staff are child-centred and the children's wider achievements, successes and dispositions are celebrated extensively within the school and the wider community.
- The very good communication with families and extremely effective links with the wider community support, enrich and benefit the children's learning experiences.

## **Going forward**

- Portstewart Primary School and Nursery Unit demonstrates a clear commitment to living out its vision of 'Inspiring success, while caring for others'. This is a welcoming, inclusive and friendly school, where children live out all that is best in being kind and caring for each other, while being enthused about learning and enjoying success. The senior leadership team are well placed to continue to lead the school in their ongoing improvement journey.
- Portstewart Primary School and Nursery Unit has some highly effective practice from which other schools may learn. These are: developing effective outdoor learning provision; and optimising good links with the community.
- The ETI will continue to work with Portstewart Primary School and Nursery Unit in the dissemination of this work.



