

PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Portadown Integrated Primary
School, Portadown, County Armagh

Integrated, co-educational

Report of a Sustaining
Improvement Inspection
in December 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments

CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



Sustaining Improvement Inspection of Portadown Integrated Primary School, Portadown, County Armagh (506-6553)

Introduction

The previous inspection in October 2014, evaluated the overall effectiveness of Portadown Integrated Primary School as very good¹. Since the last inspection, the school has increased its enrolment by 97 to 386 children. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 4 December 2017.

Focus of the inspection

The inspection focused on evaluating the extent to which the school is capable of demonstrating its capacity to effect improvement through self-evaluation and effective school development planning. The school also provided evidence of provision for safeguarding as part of the inspection.

The lines of inquiry during the SII were:

- to develop further the leadership in order to improve the arrangements for sharing best practice across the nursery and foundation stages to enhance the quality of the children's learning experiences; and
- to develop further the provision and outcomes for mental mathematics.

Key findings

- The school leadership team reviewed the teachers' duties and responsibilities to include a wide array of strategic opportunities to share planning, classroom practice, monitoring, analysis of outcomes and evaluations, particularly between the nursery and foundation stage staff. As a consequence, the staff have an in-depth knowledge of, and apply, a wide range of effective practice for the children's learning preferences and needs.
- There is a skilled collegial approach by staff to plan, share and develop a broad range of progressive strategies for mental mathematics throughout the school, facilitated by effective staff development, trusted colleague networks and the dissemination of relevant data. By year 7, the children use mathematical language confidently, apply their learning of mental mathematical strategies in a variety of contexts, and share strategies with each other.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect the guidance from the Department of Education.

Conclusion

Portadown Integrated Primary School continues to demonstrate a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will continue to monitor how the school sustains improvement.

¹ From September 2015, the overall effectiveness of a school evaluated previously as outstanding or very good has been reported as a school demonstrating a high level of capacity for sustained improvement.

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