

PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

St Aidan's Primary School,
Magilligan, County Londonderry

Maintained, co-educational

Report of a Sustaining
Improvement Inspection
in March 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
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CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



Sustaining Improvement Inspection of St Aidan's Primary School, Magilligan, County Londonderry (203-3708)

Introduction

The previous inspection in November 2014, evaluated the overall effectiveness of St Aidan's Primary School as very good¹. In the interim, there has been an increase in the enrolment from 46 children to 67 resulting in the employment of an additional teacher. In addition, a new one-way drop off system for cars has been introduced. The school has celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 12 March 2018.

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:

- the further development of numeracy, with a particular focus on place value; and
- widening the range of strategies to support underachievement and evaluate more rigorously the impact of the strategies.

Key findings

- The mathematical planning guides well the consistent delivery and development of place value. This whole school numeracy focus is developed daily and pastorally with the children and parents through purposeful learning experiences. In addition, the staff engage in professional development and the sharing of good practice through local clusters.
- The school's evidence indicates that the well-focused targets and range of appropriate intervention strategies have led to sustained improved outcomes for individuals and groups of children. In particular, understanding the barriers to learning has led to suitable individualised programmes being put in place to improve the children's outcomes. These strategies are modelled to good effect to parents through innovative workshop sessions.

Safeguarding

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect the guidance from the Department of Education. In discussion with a group of children in key stage 2, they reported that they feel safe in school and know what to do and who to talk to if they have concerns about their safety or well-being. They talked about their mutual respect for each other and the community support within and for the school.

Conclusion

St Aidan's 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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