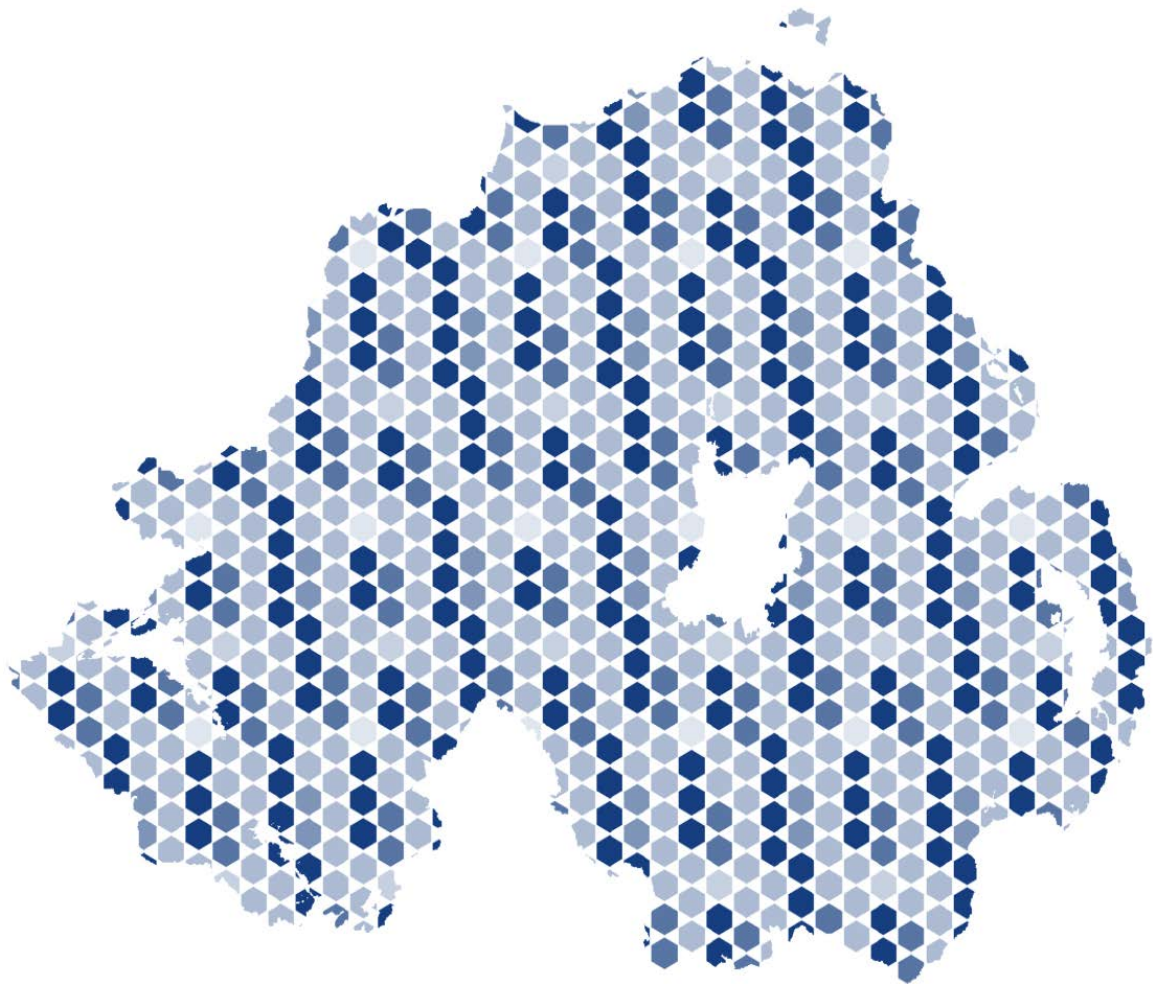


# POST-PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

St Patrick's High School,  
Keady, County Armagh

Maintained, co-educational, non-selective 11-19 school

Report of a Sustaining  
Improvement Inspection  
in January 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate  
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education  
Department for the Economy  
and other commissioning Departments



# **Sustaining Improvement Inspection of St Patrick's High School, Keady, County Armagh (523-0187)**

## **Introduction**

The previous inspection, in November 2013, evaluated the overall effectiveness of St Patrick's High School as very good<sup>1</sup>. In the interim period, there have been significant changes to the senior leadership team. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 19 January 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 raise further the standards the pupils achieve at post-16 (GCE A level and equivalents); and
- to improve further the quality of learning and teaching.

## **Key findings**

- The outcomes the pupils attain at post-16 have risen steadily and are now over 20% above the average for similar schools. These improved outcomes for pupils reflect the school's extensive work to: improve the quality of learning and teaching; provide a very high level of individual pupil care and support; and broaden the curriculum offer so that it meets better the pupils' needs and aspirations.
- The staff, under the highly effective leadership of the principal, have worked collegially and relentlessly to improve the quality of learning and teaching through ongoing reflection, professional dialogue and action research; consequently, they have a shared understanding of highly effective classroom practice. All of the lessons observed during the inspection were effective in promoting learning and most were highly effective.

## **Safeguarding**

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that arrangements for safeguarding continue to reflect<sup>2</sup> the guidance issued by the relevant Departments.

## **Conclusion**

St Patrick's High 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.

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

<sup>2</sup> From January 2017, arrangements previously evaluated as comprehensive are reported as **reflect** the guidance.

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