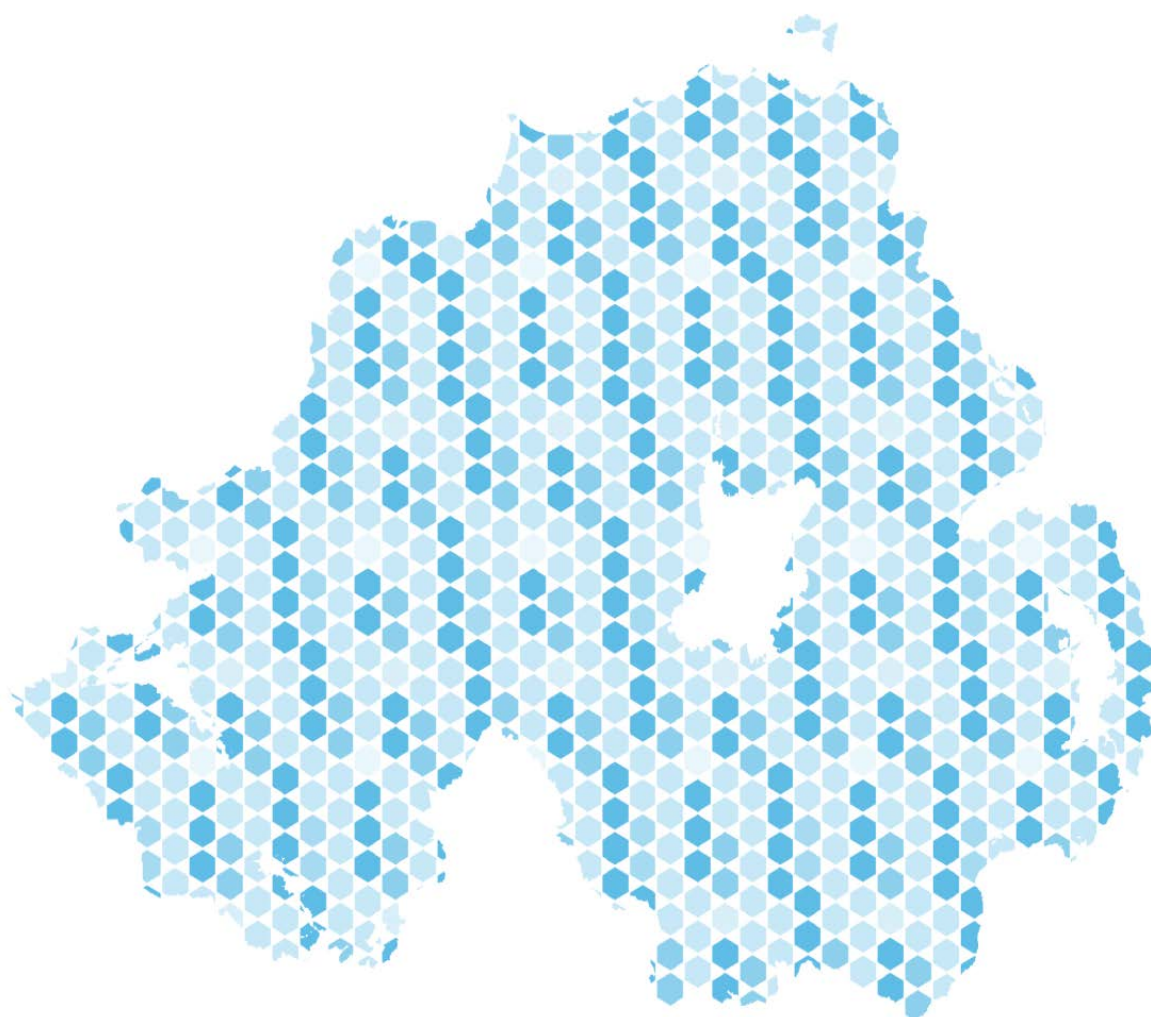


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Ballinderry Primary School and  
Nursery Unit, Lisburn, County Antrim

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Sustaining  
Improvement Inspection  
in May 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate  
Promoting Improvement

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CUSTOMER  
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EXCELLENCE



# **Sustaining Improvement Inspection of Ballinderry Primary School and Nursery Unit, Lisburn, County Antrim (401-6202)**

## **Introduction**

The previous inspection in March 2015, evaluated the overall effectiveness of Ballinderry Primary School and Nursery Unit as outstanding<sup>1</sup>. In the interim, there has been a change in senior leadership with the appointment of a new principal and interim senior leadership team. The school has also developed a shared education partnership with a local, maintained primary school. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 24 May 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 line of inquiry during the SII was:

- to raise further the standards the children attain in literacy, in particular, their reading comprehension and writing skills.

## **Key findings**

- There is a well-embedded whole-school culture of self-evaluation leading to improvement. A range of both qualitative and quantitative data is used rigorously by the senior leadership team and staff to: identify trends; monitor and track the progress the children make in their literacy; and, plan for and provide a range of appropriate and timely interventions. The school's data indicates the progress the children make in their learning across all aspects of literacy, which reflects: the school's clear focus on the development of the children's reading comprehension and writing skills; the high quality planning, learning, teaching and assessment in literacy from nursery through to key stage 2; and, the very effective in-class support and tailored intervention strategies.
- The children respond well to the range of stimulating and engaging learning opportunities and work well both independently and with each other. They use appropriately, and with increasing confidence as they move through the key stages, a range of strategies, including phonological awareness, to read and write independently in a range of genres. A selection of year 7 children read with very good fluency and comprehension. They are very enthusiastic about their reading preferences and talked confidently about the variety of authors and genres they enjoy.

## **Safeguarding**

During the inspection, the school provided evidence that the arrangements for safeguarding children reflect the guidance from the Department of Education. The group of children from year 6 reported that they feel happy and safe in school and know what to do and who to talk to if they have a concern about their safety or well-being.

## **Conclusion**

Ballinderry Primary School and Nursery Unit 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 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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