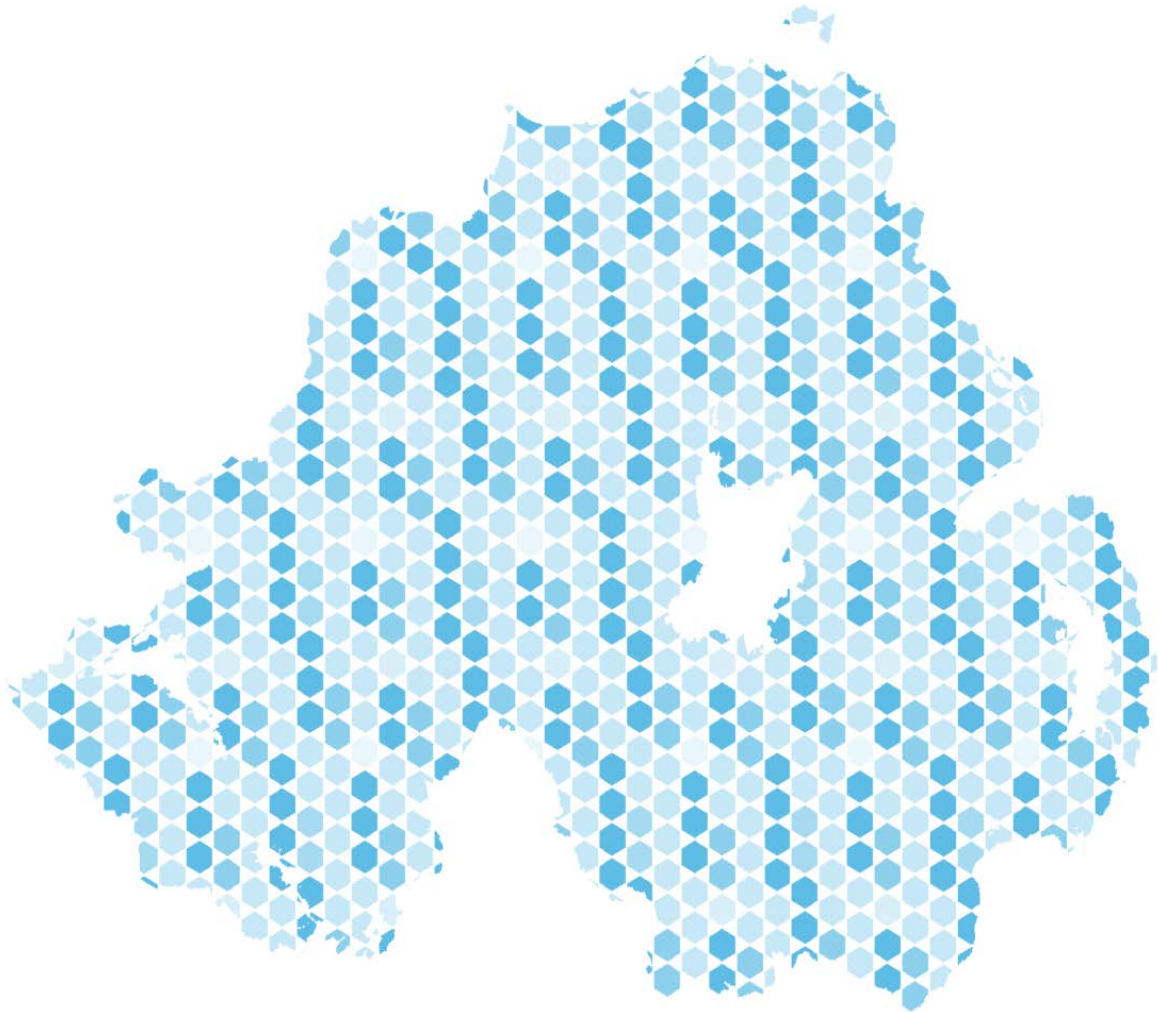


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Stranmillis Primary School and  
Nursery Unit, Belfast

Controlled, co-educational

Report of a Sustaining  
Improvement Inspection  
in October 2017

*eti*

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 Stranmillis Primary School and Nursery Unit, Belfast (101-0324)**

### **Introduction**

The previous inspection in September 2014, evaluated the overall effectiveness of Stranmillis Primary School and Nursery Unit as outstanding<sup>1</sup>. In the interim, there have been no major changes to the leadership team in the school. A sustaining improvement inspection (SII) was conducted on 2 and 3 October 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 continue to enhance the quality of learning and teaching through building a community of expert teachers within and beyond the school; and
- to raise further the standards in numeracy through improving the quality of the children's mathematical thinking and the application of their numeracy skills in meaningful contexts.

### **Key findings**

- There is a strategic and systematic approach to school improvement. This important work is built upon the professional development of the teachers to use effectively a range of data, provide skilful observations of learning, and share in-depth evaluations of the quality of the children's work, which lead to the identification of priorities for further improvement. There is an agreed focus placed on effective classroom practice; the staff engage appropriately as a team to set challenging targets, monitor the differentiated planning, measure progress and secure further improvements in the children's learning.
- The children talk confidently about their thinking and learning in mathematics, draw effectively on a range of mental mathematics strategies and are flexible in their mathematical problem solving. Almost all of the children achieve very good standards in mathematics.

### **Safeguarding**

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

### **Conclusion**

Stranmillis 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.

---

<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.

**Health and Safety**

- The fencing at the front of the school is too low which could impact negatively on the children's safety.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2017

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the ETI website: [www.etini.gov.uk](http://www.etini.gov.uk)