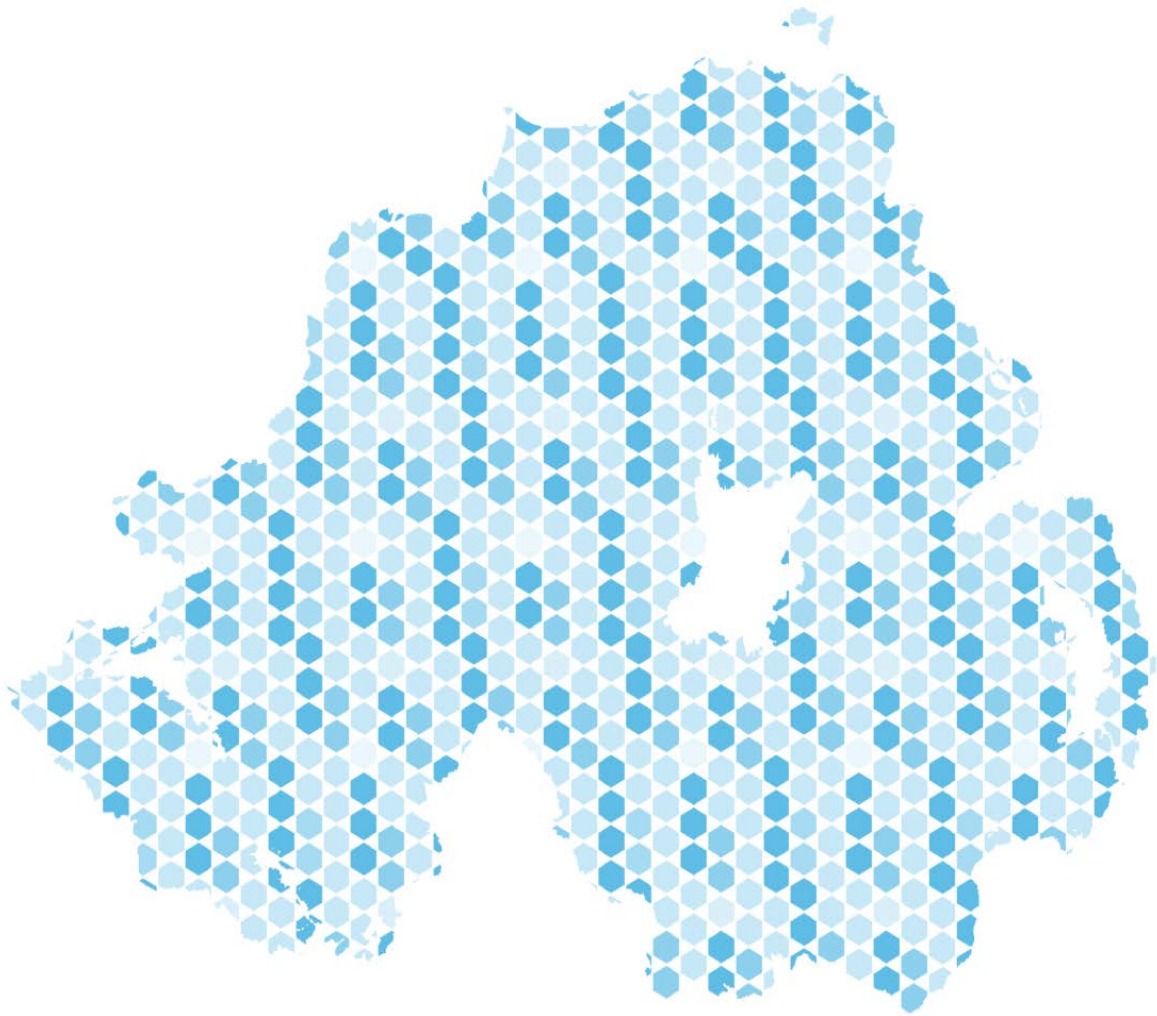


# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

The Wallace High School  
Preparatory Department

Report of a Sustaining  
Improvement Inspection  
in June 2016

*eti*

The Education and Training Inspectorate  
Promoting Improvement

**Providing Inspection Services for:**

Department of Education  
Department for the Economy  
Department for Communities



## **Sustaining Improvement Inspection of The Wallace High School Preparatory Department (462-0051)**

In the last inspection, held in May 2013, The Wallace High School Preparatory Department was evaluated overall as very good. A Sustaining Improvement Inspection (SII) was conducted on 9 June 2016. The purpose of the SII is to evaluate the extent to which the school is capable of demonstrating that it has sustained its capacity to effect improvement through self-evaluation and effective school development planning. The school was asked to select, from the current priorities in the school development plan (SDP), two key priorities to demonstrate to the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) the effectiveness of the school's actions to continued improvement.

The two key areas identified by the school for the inspection were:

- to develop a more consistent approach to the teaching of writing throughout the school; and
- the strategic leadership of the newly appointed head of the preparatory department.

### **Key findings**

- The school development plan focuses appropriately on raising standards and improving provision in literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology (ICT). The school continues to effect improvement through effective development planning underpinned by robust monitoring and evaluation. Of particular importance is the further development of talking, listening and writing across the school, which is integrated effectively across the curriculum, based in real-life contexts and is well-supported by the use of ICT. All of the lessons observed during the sustaining improvement inspection were good in progressing learning and a majority were very good.
- Since the time of the last inspection in 2013, there has been a period of change in relation to arrangements in place for leadership and management of the preparatory department. The recently appointed head of department and key co-ordinators are committed to raising the standards achieved by all children and to continue to improve the quality of learning and teaching. Effective use is made of performance data to set targets, identify low and underachievement and plan for appropriate interventions. The school's internal performance data shows that almost all children are making progress in line with their ability or above expectation.

### **Conclusion**

Wallace High School Preparatory Department continues to demonstrate a high level of capacity<sup>1</sup> for sustained self-improvement in the interests of the children. 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/very good/good will now be evaluated as having high capacity for sustained improvement/capacity for sustained improvement

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