









St. Joseph's Primary School 42 Castle Street Lisburn BT274XE

## 'Being the best that we can be'

21 March 2018

Dear Parent,

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I am delighted to inform you that St. Joseph's underwent a very successful follow up inspection on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

The school was placed in formal intervention following an ETI inspection in May 2016 and it identified several areas which needed addressed:

- the stability of the leadership and strength of the management at all levels,
- the quality of planning, learning and teaching to meet more fully the needs and abilities of all the children; and
- the unsatisfactory arrangements for safeguarding. The safeguarding issues were subsequently addressed before the six-week safeguarding follow up in June 2016.

The focus of the recent inspection was to assess the progress in the outstanding areas.

The outcome of the inspection is that St. Joseph's now demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interests of all learners. The next inspection will be a sustaining improvement inspection, to be undertaken in 3 years time.

The following were the key findings of February's inspection:

- the outcomes for learners in literacy are now very good and good in numeracy;
- data now indicates that almost all the children achieve standards in literacy and numeracy as expected;
- the children are now using ICT appropriately and making good progress across all aspects of the ICT curriculum;
- the quality of provision in both literacy and special educational needs (SEN) is now very good, and good in numeracy and ICT;
- all of the learning and teaching observed during the follow-up inspection process was effective or highly effective, and one quarter was highly effective;
- the strategic, and very effective, leadership of the acting principal and acting vice-principal in particular has been instrumental in leading the improvement agenda;
- there can be a high level of confidence in the aspects of governance evaluated; and
- St Joseph's demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners.

The progress found by the inspectors in all these areas is a great achievement for all the staff. Mrs Fleming and the Senior Leadership Team have been extremely committed to ensuring that St. Joseph's meets the standard that you, as parents, expect for your children. All the staff are to be congratulated for their success, which was a result of their dedication and professionalism.

The Board of Governors wishes to acknowledge the support that the parents have given the school since the last inspection, and this inspection report is a great boost to the whole St. Joseph's community. The report is now available on the school and ETI website.

We are aware there are outstanding issues and active measures are in place to address these. We are committed to a path of continuous improvement and will continue to strive to meet our goal of providing the best possible education for your children.

May we take this opportunity to wish you a happy Easter break and we look forward to a busy summer term ahead.

Best wishes,

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Mr Paul Glover

Chair of Governors



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