

eti

*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
Promoting Improvement*

**Providing Inspection Services for
Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Bunscoil an Traonaigh
Lisnaskea**

June 2012

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF BUNSCOIL AN TRAONAIGH, LISNASKEA, CO FERMANAGH, BT92 0PE (204-6669)

The focused inspection in May 2007 highlighted strengths in the ethos of the school, the commitment of the Teacher-in-charge (Principal) and the ongoing development of whole-school policies. The areas for improvement identified included the need to:

- comply more fully with the Department of Education (DE) circulars, in particular, with regard to the vetting of the teachers;
- focus more sharply on raising the standards of the children's written work; and
- develop strategies to monitor the work of the school and to provide more strategic direction as the school grows in size.

At the time of the first Follow-Up Inspection (FUI) in May 2009, in almost all of the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school was inadequate; the significant areas for improvement outweighed the strengths in the provision. Important areas for improvement identified in the original inspection in standards, learning and teaching and leadership and management, remained to be addressed urgently if the organisation was to meet effectively the needs of all of the children. The school entered the Formal Intervention (FIP) process, in line with the DE's improvement policy "Every School a Good School".

At the time of the FUI on 24 November 2010 the quality of education provided by the school had improved to a satisfactory level and the school exited the FIP process.

In the interval since November 2010, the following action which affects the work of the school has taken place:

- a programme of classroom observations has been carried out by the Principal; the children's work and the teachers' planning and teaching were scrutinised;
- the teachers have looked critically at the children's written work for moderation and levelling of standards to improve the quality of the writing;
- the Board of Governors (governors) is working more in partnership with the staff and the Principal to ensure that adequate time is given to focus on the important educational matters; and
- the School Development Plan priorities and action plans have been re-adjusted and refined to address shortfalls in strategic planning.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out two monitoring visits in June 2011 and March 2012, and a FUI on 6 June 2012. The school adjusted the School Development Plan and action plans in light of feedback given by the ETI during the monitoring visits.

The following are the most important improvements from the original inspection, and the developmental work since exiting the FIP process:

- the teachers were vetted in line with the requirements of the DE circulars;
- the policies for pastoral care and child protection were reviewed and communicated to the parents;

- effective practices and procedures are now in place for monitoring and evaluating the children's achievements and outcomes;
- the quality of the teaching, planning and assessment has improved;
- the children's standards in writing in Irish and English are in line with the wide range of abilities and are now good;
- the school co-ordinators are aware of and take responsibility to improve their curricular roles and to extend the children's range of experiences across the curriculum;
- the Principal is undertaking the Professional Qualification for Headship (PQH) and is developing her leadership and management skills in the school; and
- the governors are focused on improvement and the board has been strengthened to include more expertise. They are exercising their challenge function and setting higher expectations and aspirations for the achievements and standards of the children.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is now good. The school has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The follow-up inspection has identified some aspects of the areas for improvement still to be addressed but equally the school has demonstrated the capacity to address them.

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