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*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

**Drumduff Primary School
Omagh**

June 2013

FOLLOW UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DRUMDUFF PRIMARY SCHOOL, OMAGH, CO TYRONE, BT79 9PH (203-2639)

The focused inspection of Drumduff Primary School in December 2011, highlighted the following strengths: the hard working and committed staff; the welcoming family ethos created in the school; the co-operative and attentive children; the very good working relationships at all levels; the good standards achieved by the children; the steady progress made by the children requiring additional support with their learning; the effective involvement of parents in the life and work of the school; and the range of extra-curricular activities on offer to the children.

The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key areas in the primary school.

- In order to raise the standards further the teachers need to ensure that there is sufficient challenge and consistent progression in all aspects of the children's learning. In particular, the children require better opportunities throughout the classes to develop their language and oral communication skills, thinking skills and personal capabilities.
- This assessment work needs to be developed further to inform the planning and match the teaching and learning more fully to each child's needs and interests.
- The leadership and management at all levels now need to place a greater emphasis on setting out clearer action plans which are monitored and evaluated more rigorously to ensure their effective implementation leads to the necessary improvements in the learning and teaching.

In the interval since the inspection, the following actions which affect the work of the school have taken place:

- the school and nursery unit have received support from the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS), and the Western Education and Library Board's (WELB) Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS);
- the school has strengthened its role in the local school's cluster in order to share good practice;
- the roles and responsibilities of the Principal and the co-ordinators have been developed further to include more rigorous monitoring and evaluation;
- the school is using more effectively the information gathered from the monitoring and evaluation process, and from consultation with parents, to inform the school development plan;
- an audit of the provision for talking and listening has been completed and a clear focus for improvement identified; and
- the teacher's planning has been reviewed and now has a clearer focus on providing opportunities for developing the children's problem-solving and thinking skills.

The action plans produced by the school in response to the inspection findings were of a good quality. The school's development plan has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out two interim follow-up visits to the primary school and a follow-up inspection in June 2013.

Very good progress has been made in all of the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection.

The following are the most important improvements in the primary school:

- the highly effective, committed and strategic leadership provided by the Principal;
- the dedicated and effective co-ordinators who have developed well their capacity to monitor and evaluate the provision in their areas and disseminate the most effective practice;
- the formalised procedures for collecting and analysing performance data to identify low and under-achievement in literacy and numeracy, to identify curricular areas for development and to set targets for further improvement;
- the effective use made of the school development plan to bring about school improvement;
- the improved quality and consistency of the teaching across all key stages which was very good or outstanding in the lessons observed and provided high levels of challenge including excellent opportunities for developing the children's oral communication and their thinking skills; and
- the improving trends in the quality of the children's oral and written work and the very good overall standards they attain.

In the areas inspected, the quality of the education provided by this school is very good. The school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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