



*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

**Eden Primary School
Ballymoney**

March 2015

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF EDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL, BALLYMONEY, CO ANTRIM, BT53 7PB (301- 0796)

The original inspection of Eden Primary School in 2013 highlighted strengths in the children's behaviour and motivation and the standards they achieve in literacy and numeracy.

It also highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- to develop the planning and assessment practice to help the teachers tailor sufficiently the learning and teaching to the needs, interests and abilities of all of the children; and
- to review the roles and responsibilities of the staff, in particular, to develop further the role of co-ordinators in effecting improvement in their respective areas of responsibility, including the development of a more strategic approach to self-evaluation and action-planning leading to improvement.

The inspection conclusion in January 2013 stated:

'In most of the areas inspected the quality of education provided in this school is satisfactory; the strengths outweigh areas for improvement in the provision. The inspection has identified areas for improvement in provision for learning, and leadership and management, which need to be addressed if the needs of all the children are to be met more effectively.'

The following information is relevant to the work of the school since the original inspection.

- A number of changes in the teaching staff resulted in a re-allocation of a number of co-ordinator roles.
- The school received targeted support for literacy, numeracy and leadership and management from the North Eastern Education and Library Board (NEELB) Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) officers.
- The staff reviewed the planning formats and produced lines of progression for numeracy and for areas of literacy.
- The staff reviewed and implemented new policies for intimate care and marking for improvement.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out two monitoring visits and a follow-up inspection on 2 March 2015.

The action plans received by the Department of Education following the inspection were of a very good quality and were adjusted appropriately in the light of feedback given by the Education and Training Inspectorate during the interim visits. The school's development plan is informed by the inspection findings.

The following are the most important improvements since the original inspection:

- there is improved strategic leadership at all levels;

- the co-ordinators have brought about significant improvements in planning, teaching and assessment and are monitoring and evaluating effectively the developments in their areas of responsibility;
- the teachers use the assessment data more effectively and consistently to identify and address underachievement and to support the needs of children who require additional support with aspects of their learning;
- the principal and staff have established a collegial approach to school improvement;
- the staff have developed their shared understanding of high-quality learning and teaching, leading to greater consistency in the children's learning, as evidenced by the more effective lessons observed throughout the follow-up process;
- the teachers evaluate the planning rigorously, use their evaluations to inform future planning and match the teaching strategies to the children's needs; and
- the school has sustained high standards in literacy and numeracy, as evidenced by the children's responses to, and engagement with, their learning, and by the school's internal data.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by the school is good. The school has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The inspection has identified an area for improvement which the school has demonstrated the capacity to address.

The follow-up inspection has identified the need:

- for the senior leadership to continue to support, embed and take forward the effective practice established to date.

The Education and Training Inspectorate will monitor, through district inspection activity, the school's progress on the area for improvement.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2015

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