



*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

**Glendermott Primary School
Londonderry**

June 2013

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF GLENDERMOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL, LONDONDERRY, BT47 3QZ (203-2212)

The original inspection of Glendermott Primary School in 2011 highlighted strengths in the very good quality of the pastoral care, the commitment of the staff to the well-being of the children and the development of the school, the very good leadership of the recently appointed Principal, and the good start made towards developing self-evaluation throughout the school. The inspection also highlighted the good quality of the education provided by the staff in the nursery unit.

It also highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- to develop and disseminate those aspects of the good teaching identified to enhance the learning experiences for all the children and raise further the standards they attain; and
- to establish and develop the role of the co-ordinators in planning, monitoring and evaluating the provision and outcomes.

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

- the teaching staff has been reduced from seven to six and there has been some redeployment of staff; almost all the teachers are now on permanent contracts;
- the literacy and numeracy co-ordinators have been appointed with clearly defined monitoring and evaluation responsibilities;
- there has been a review of the provision for children with special educational needs (SEN);
- the school has sought out and availed of opportunities to develop the staff and build capacity at all levels by initiating clustering arrangements with other schools, participating in a University of Ulster mathematics programme and through the involvement of two teachers in the accredited literacy course which focuses on children with SEN at Stranmillis University College;
- the school leadership and co-ordinators have received on-going training and support from the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS) and the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) of the Western Education and Library Board (WELB);
- systematic whole-school approaches to the teaching of reading, writing, mental mathematics and handling data have been introduced throughout the school; and
- greater parental and community links have been developed through the events organised to celebrate the school's centenary.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a total of two monitoring visits and a follow up inspection on 10 June 2013.

The action plans received by the Department of Education following the inspection were of a very good. The school's development plan was adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

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

- the good leadership provided by the co-ordinators who are committed to whole-school improvement and are developing effectively their capacity for self-evaluation by reviewing the planning, scrutinising the children's work, observing lessons and guiding staff effectively through developments in literacy, numeracy and SEN;
- the more systematic use of the available data to identify key curricular areas for development, to assist in the identification of children who are underachieving, and to track the progress made by the children;
- the significant progress made in addressing underachievement; almost all of the children achieve good outcomes that are in line with their ability or above expectation in literacy and most of the children achieve similar outcomes in mathematics;
- the quality of the teaching observed during the follow-up inspection which was consistently good; and
- the very effective leadership of the Principal who has managed the processes of review and development well and has created a collegial approach to self-evaluation which is supported by the hard-working and committed staff team and is focused on raising further the educational outcomes for all 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 an aspect of the areas for improvement still to be addressed, but equally the school has demonstrated the capacity to address this.

The area for improvement is for the teachers:

- to develop further the range of learning and teaching strategies used to ensure the needs of all of the children, particularly those with higher ability are fully met.

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