



*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

**Killyleagh Primary School
Co Down**

April 2015

SECOND FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF KILLYLEAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL, CO DOWN, BT30 9SR (401-1634)

The inspection in November 2010 highlighted strengths in: the enthusiastic, co-operative and well-mannered children; the good quality of the majority of the teaching observed; the caring, inclusive ethos characterised by the very good working relationships at all levels; the good quality of the provision for children with special educational needs and the good progress they make; the strong links with the local community; and the dedicated, hard-working acting principal, teachers and support staff who work effectively as a team.

The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- to raise the children's levels of attainment in literacy and numeracy; and
- to develop further the monitoring procedures within the school in order to evaluate strategically the quality of learning and teaching, to inform the school development planning process more fully and to effect improvement in the standards achieved by the children.

The action plan produced by the organisation in response to the inspection findings was of a good quality and was adjusted appropriately in light of feedback given by the Education and Training Inspectorate during the two monitoring visits before the follow-up inspection in June 2013.

The first follow-up inspection concluded that, in most of the areas inspected, the quality of education provided in this school remains satisfactory; the strengths outweigh areas for improvement in the provision. The area for improvement is the need to raise further the children's attainment by continuing to disseminate the best practice in learning and teaching.

Two further monitoring visits were conducted in March and November 2014, and a second follow-up inspection was conducted in April 2015.

In the period between the first follow-up inspection and the second one, the following actions which affect the work of the school have taken place.

- The school has entered a federation with Glasswater Primary School, Crossgar, which facilitates regular joint staff training and sharing of good practice, and which supplements the ongoing support from the Education Authority: South-Eastern Region.
- A new literacy programme has been introduced across the school, with a view to addressing difficulties encountered by the children in language development, talking and listening, reading and writing.
- A Signature Project¹ teacher has been appointed to support the school's aim of raising the children's attainment in literacy.
- The school has accessed high-quality training in the use of information and communication technology (ICT).

¹ In October 2012 OFMDFM announced a Delivering Social Change Signature Project on improving literacy and numeracy. Recent graduate teachers who are not currently in work will be employed to facilitate the delivery of tuition, where appropriate, for children in primary and post-primary schools who are currently struggling to achieve expected educational standards.

In the second follow-up inspection, important improvements were demonstrated.

- The more effective practice in learning and teaching has been sustained and is characterised by the teachers' high expectations for the children's behaviour and engagement in their learning.
- The co-ordinators are developing well their capacity to lead, monitor and evaluate the quality of provision within their respective areas of responsibility.
- The purposeful action plans for key aspects of the school's provision are monitored regularly.
- The school's performance and assessment data is being used effectively to identify under-achievement at an early stage and to select appropriate strategies to support the children's progress.

The second follow-up inspection concluded that, in most of the areas inspected, the quality of education provided in this school remains satisfactory; the strengths outweigh areas for improvement in the provision. The areas for improvement are the need to:

- continue to raise the overall standard of the children's extended writing; and
- to develop further the children's knowledge, understanding and ability to apply mathematical strategies in different contexts.

The Education and Training Inspectorate will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing the area for improvement.

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