



*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

**Landhead Primary School
Ballymoney**

December 2012

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF LANDHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL, BALLYMONEY, BT53 7HL (301-0795)

The focused inspection of Landhead Primary School, in May 2010, highlighted the following strengths: the positive family ethos; the courteous well-behaved and polite children; the quality of teaching observed which was always good or better; the hard-working and committed teachers, who are ably supported by the classroom assistants; the good start made to self-evaluation within the area of pastoral care; and the strong sense of team-work and collegiality promoted by the Principal.

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

- to improve the standards the children achieve in literacy and numeracy; and
- to develop a more rigorous and systematic approach to the monitoring and evaluation of the quality of provision and the standards the children achieve.

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

- a teacher with responsibility for literacy and SEN has been appointed to the senior management team;
- a new teacher, who also acts as numeracy co-ordinator has been appointed;
- the North-Eastern Education and Library Board's Curriculum Advisory and Support Service and C2K have provided professional support and training for teachers in the areas identified as requiring improvement;
- the literacy co-ordinator has undertaken professional development in an emergent leadership programme with the Regional Training Unit (RTU);
- the school has introduced new systems and procedures, including ICT solutions, to address the areas for improvement, such as the regular reviewing of the children's written work, analysing performance data across the school and the restructuring of the teachers' planning in light of the information gained?;
- the school has introduced individual performance targets for every child and monitors and reviews these appropriately; and
- the literacy and numeracy policies have been revised and redrafted;

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out one interim follow-up monitoring visit and a follow-up inspection on 10 December 2012. The action plan produced by the organisation in response to the inspection findings was of a good quality. The school's development plan, which has been adjusted in light of the original inspection findings, is of a good quality also.

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

- the steady improvement in the standards achieved by the children, where most attain good outcomes in literacy and numeracy which are in line with their abilities;

- the effective strategies in place to monitor and evaluate the work of the school on improving further the standards achieved by the children in literacy and numeracy;
- the effective leadership and co-ordination of literacy and numeracy across the school, which is outcomes-focused and is improving the quality of the provision for the children;
- the quality of the teaching in the lessons observed which was always good, with one-quarter of the lessons very good; and
- the embedded culture of self-evaluation that has been led effectively and promoted well by the Principal.

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 process has identified some aspects of the areas for improvement still to be addressed, but equally the school has demonstrated the capacity to address these.

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