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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**

**St Mary's Primary School  
Craigavon**

**October 2010**

Chairperson of the Board of Governors  
St Mary's Primary School  
20A Derrymore Road  
Gawley's Gate  
CRAIGAVON  
Co Armagh  
BT67 0BW

1 November 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

The Education and Training Inspectorate conducted a follow-up inspection of St Mary's Primary School on 6 October 2010. The reporting inspector, Mrs K McGuinness, has already given you feedback. Attached is a copy of the follow-up inspection report.

The Department will not send copies of this short report to parents, although the school may send out copies if it so wishes, or inform parents that the report is available.

In line with usual practice, the report will be published on the website of the Department of Education after 3 November 2010.

Yours sincerely



**ELIZABETH WELLS (MRS)**  
**Inspection Services Branch**

**Tel No: 028 9127 9726**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, DERRYMORE, CO ARMAGH, BT67 0BW (503-6006)**

The focused inspection in St Mary's Primary School highlighted strengths in the caring, supportive ethos, the good or better quality of teaching in most of the lessons observed and the excellent behaviour, high levels of motivation and positive attitudes towards learning demonstrated by all of the children. In addition, the inspection noted the very good progress being made in the implementation of the Northern Ireland Curriculum at the foundation stage and the committed, hard-working Principal, teaching and non-teaching staff.

The areas for improvement identified by the inspection included the need to:

- review the procedures for identifying and providing for children with special educational needs in order to meet more fully the needs of all of the children; and
- to further develop the self-evaluation and related school development planning procedures in order to focus more specifically on key targets and to assist the management team to plan, monitor and evaluate improvement more effectively.

In the interval since the inspection, the following action which affects the work of the school has taken place:

- the full-time teaching staff complement has increased from 7 to 7.6;
- one permanent member of staff has been on extended sick leave;
- one member of staff is currently on a career break;
- the enrolment has increased from 131 to 147 children;
- the school has invested significant resources on the purchase of novels and practical materials to support learning and teaching in literacy and numeracy;
- the teaching and support staff have had extensive training in aspects of special needs provision; and
- the school has received very good support from the Southern Education and Library Board Curriculum and Advisory Support Services.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out one monitoring visit and a follow-up inspection on 6 October 2010.

The action plan produced by the organisation in response to the inspection findings was of a very good quality.

The school's development plan has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings. The development plan meets the statutory requirements as set out by the Department of Education.

Good progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection.

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

- there are effective strategies in place to monitor and evaluate the quality of the teaching and the children's progress in order to promote improvement;
- there are effective procedures in place to identify and monitor the progress of those children with additional learning needs;
- the school has made effective use of internal data to assess the children's levels of attainment, to inform planning and to identify priorities for whole-school development;
- the procedures for self-evaluation, school development planning and performance review and staff development are effectively integrated to promote improvement.

## **CONCLUSION**

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this organisation is now good. The organisation has important strengths in most of its educational provision. The follow-up inspection has identified some aspects of the areas for improvement still to be addressed but equally the organisation has demonstrated the capacity to address these.

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