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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**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Education and Training Inspectorate

Area-Based Inspection

**Dunclug Primary School
Ballymena**

February 2009

AREA-BASED INSPECTION - BALLYMENA AREA 2009: STRATEGIC PLANNING, COHERENCE IN LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI), carried out an area-based inspection in Dunclug Primary School during February 2009.

The strengths include:

- the very good quality of care, guidance and support for the children;
- the good range of formal and informal activities to promote the school's values and to develop the children's thinking skills, personal capabilities, confidence and self-esteem;
- the children's very good levels of motivation and engagement in learning; and
- the involvement of the governors, teaching and non-teaching staff in the annual review of the school's needs.

The areas for improvement include the need to:

- develop further curricular links with pre-school and post-primary settings to ensure continuity and progression in the children's learning and to meet their individual needs; and
- further develop strategic planning including the self-evaluation, school development planning and monitoring and evaluation procedures in order to bring about improvement.

While a few specific areas for improvement have been identified in this report, the composite report from the area-based inspection raises broader issues which need to be addressed by all of the schools and organisations visited.

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