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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**



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## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of a Follow-up Inspection**

**Anahilt Primary School  
Hillsborough**

**June 2009**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF ANAHILT PRIMARY SCHOOL, HILLSBOROUGH, CO DOWN, BT26 6BP (401-1608)**

The focused inspection in May 2006 highlighted strengths in the school's provision that included:

- the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to support the children's learning;
- the quality of the children's mathematical thinking and problem-solving;
- the motivation and enthusiasm of the children for their learning; and
- the hard-working, dedicated and caring teachers.

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

- the need to develop further the monitoring and evaluating across the school's provision, including the teaching and learning, in order to improve the quality of the children's experiences and the standards they achieve; and
- the need to ensure that all the parents are fully aware of the school's procedures relating to child protection.

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

- the appointment of a new Vice-principal;
- the issuing of the pastoral care policy to all families, the receipt of which is confirmed by signature;
- the review of planning in mathematics to include learning intentions and success criteria;
- the establishment of a Pupil Council; and
- the introduction of Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out four monitoring visits prior to the follow-up inspection, which was undertaken on 2 June 2009.

The action plan produced by the school in response to the inspection findings was of a very good quality and was adjusted appropriately in light of feedback given by the Inspectorate during the monitoring visits.

The School Development Plan (SDP) has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings. The SDP meets the statutory requirements as set out by the Department of Education.

Very good progress has been made in the areas of improvement identified during the original inspection.

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

- the good improvement in the standards achieved by the children in mathematics, as demonstrated by the end of key stage 2 results and the effective analysis of standardised test scores;
- the very good progress made in applying more rigorous and consistent strategies to monitor and evaluate learning and teaching, such as, classroom observations and evaluation of planning by the teachers and senior management; and
- the incorporation of learning intentions and success criteria in the learning and teaching.

Since the inspection, the school evaluated the progress made in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection. The inspection confirms that, through effective self-evaluation, the school demonstrated clear evidence of improvement. Accordingly, the Inspectorate recommends that the processes for self-evaluation now in place are further developed.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is now very good. The school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the learners and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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