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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**

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

**Andrews Memorial Primary School  
Comber**

**June 2009**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF ANDREWS MEMORIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL, COMBER, CO DOWN, BT23 5PG (401-6126)**

The focused inspection in March 2006 highlighted strengths including:

- the quality of the teaching which was always satisfactory, often good and at times excellent;
- the quality of the provision for structured play;
- the standards in mathematics attained by the children; and
- the effective special educational needs provision.

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

- the need to monitor and evaluate consistently the quality and range of the children's experiences to ensure that learning and teaching are matched effectively to the needs of the children, including the more able; and
- the need to update the current procedures and implement fully the guidance outlined in the Department of Education (DE) Circular 1999/10, 'Pastoral Care in Schools: Child Protection' and in Circular 2003/13, 'Welfare and Protection of Pupils Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order'.

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

- the appointment of a new Principal;
- the review of the school management structure including the expansion of the School Leadership Team;
- the appointment of a new information and communication technology (ICT) co-ordinator and the installation of eight additional Interactive Whiteboards;
- the establishment of a School Council, elected by the children;
- a review of the merit system; and
- the creation of a 'Breakfast Club.'

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out 4 monitoring visits and a follow-up inspection on 3 June 2009.

The school's development plan (SDP) has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings. The SDP meets the statutory requirements as set out by DE.

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 focused inspection:

- the full implementation of the guidance outlined in DE Circular 1999/10, 'Pastoral Care in Schools: Child Protection' and in Circular 2003/13, 'Welfare and Protection of Pupils Education and Libraries Order', including the training of ancillary staff;
- in the lessons observed, the promotion of active learning supported by extension activities to meet the needs of all the children, including the more able;
- the standards in mathematics as demonstrated by the most recent end of key stage results;
- the support to learning provided by ICT and the additional interactive whiteboards; and
- the effective review of security and access arrangements for parents, children and visitors.

Since the inspection, the school evaluated the progress made in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection. The inspectorate recommends that the processes for self-evaluation are developed to focus more strongly on self-evaluation as a means to bring about improvement.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is now very good. The organisation 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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