

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

Clea Primary School Keady

May 2011

## FOLLOW-UP TO THE SHORT INSPECTION OF CLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL, KEADY, CO ARMAGH, BT60 3QR (503-1108)

The short inspection in March 2010 highlighted strengths in the school's ethos; the children's behaviour and attitudes to learning; the quality of the teaching; the high level of care and commitment shown to the children by the staff; the value added to the children's learning experiences through the provision of a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities; and the very good leadership and management provided by the Principal.

The inspection identified the following areas for improvement:

- the need for the teachers to further develop their short-term planning in literacy and numeracy;
- the need for all of the teachers to work together to address more effectively the needs of the children with special educational needs; and
- the need to raise further the standards achieved by the children in literacy and numeracy.

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

- the support provided by the Southern Education and Library Board's Curriculum Advisory and Support Service in relation to planning for literacy and numeracy;
- the appointment of a temporary support teacher to work alongside the special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) to provide targeted intervention for children identified as requiring additional support in literacy and mathematics;
- the consultation with parents on reading across the school and the programme of guidance and support which has subsequently been put in place;
- the training of the classroom assistants in guided reading and phonics;
- the purchase of additional literacy resources to improve standards in reading;
- the support from the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment in relation to the accurate levelling of the children's work in literacy and mathematics;
- the support from C2k in the gathering and analysis of performance data; and
- the further development of the school website which is highly valued by the children, their parents; the staff and the wider community.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out two interim follow-up inspection visits in February and April 2011 and a follow-up inspection on 4 May 2011.

The action plan produced by the school in response to the inspection findings was of an outstanding quality.

The school 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.

The following are the most important improvements since the inspection in March 2010:

- the enthusiastic and collegiate approach of all of the staff to school improvement since the inspection under the outstanding leadership of the Principal;
- the very effective strategies used by all of the teachers to rigorously monitor and evaluate the work of the school with a clear focus on further improving the very good or better standards achieved by the children in English and mathematics;
- the excellent whole school planning in all areas of the curriculum which ensures progression in the children's knowledge and understanding;
- the excellent leadership of the literacy and mathematics co-ordinators and their high expectations of what the children can achieve;
- the outstanding leadership of the SENCO which has led to significant improvements in all aspects of the provision for children who require long and short-term additional support with their learning; and
- the innovative and very effective use of data to track the progress of individual children through detailed profiling of their academic, social and emotional development.

## CONCLUSION

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is outstanding; the quality of pastoral care is also outstanding. The school has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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