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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**

**Coleraine College**

**January 2007**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (SSP) BASELINE INSPECTION OF COLERAINE COLLEGE, CO LONDONDERRY, BT51 3LR (321-0300)**

The SSP inspection in February 2006 highlighted strengths including:

- the pastoral care of the pupils;
- the examples of good working relationships between the teachers and the pupils in most classes;
- the behaviour of the pupils;
- the quality of the teaching observed;
- the provision for the pupils who experience difficulties with their learning;
- the whole-school improvements in learning and teaching led by the Principal and the senior management team;
- the breadth of the curriculum for the pupils in years 11 and 12; and
- the Raising Achievement Programme being piloted with a class in year 8.

The inspection also identified the need:

- for more strategic leadership by the Principal and the senior management to ensure further improvement in teaching and learning, and more rigorous and systematic monitoring and evaluation of identified and agreed priorities;
- to raise the teachers' and pupils' expectations of what can be achieved, in order to raise standards across the school, through the effective dissemination and communication of the existing very good practice; all the teachers need to be involved in, and committed to, promoting improvement; and
- for the further development of information and communication technology (ICT), numeracy and aspects of literacy to support the pupils' learning across the school.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a follow-up inspection on 25-26 January 2007. The Inspectorate acknowledges the determined efforts made by, and the commitment of, the teachers in addressing the issues raised.

In the interval since the baseline inspection in February 2006, actions that have affected the work of the school have included:

- the changes in the composition and duties of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT);
- the strong support by the Curriculum and Support Service (CASS) of the North-Eastern Education and Library Board; and
- the location of the school in a single building on the extended campus.

The following are the most important improvements since the inspection in February 2006.

- The SLT is providing effective leadership and is encouraging the development of professional debate designed to improve the quality of teaching and the pupils' learning.
- Sound processes are in place to guide teaching and learning.
- The results obtained by the pupils in external examinations in 2006 have improved significantly in most subjects.
- The school has made a sound beginning to monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and extent of the pupils' learning.
- The dissemination of good practice is occurring with good effect within an increasing number of departments.
- The pupils are developing well their literacy and numeracy skills in English and mathematics classes, and across the curriculum.

The main areas for further improvement include the need:

- to increase the use of, and to raise standards in, ICT across the curriculum; and
- for the SLT to support the staff in becoming more skilled in measuring and finding evidence of improvement in the pupils' learning.

The school has made good progress in its agenda for improvement under the SSP. The Inspectorate will continue to monitor the work of the school and report on its progress.

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