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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
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Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

Coleraine College

January 2008

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

The SSP follow-up inspection in January 2007 highlighted strengths such as the effective leadership of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT); the sound processes to guide teaching and learning; the improved results in external examinations; the sound beginning made by the school in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and extent of the pupils' learning; the dissemination of good practice within an increasing number of departments and the development of the pupils' literacy and numeracy skills.

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

- to increase the use of, and to raise standards in, information and communication technology (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.

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

- the continuing good support provided by the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service of the North-Eastern Education and Library Board;
- the leadership training provided by the Regional Training Unit; and
- the additional ICT resources, purchased through the SSP.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a follow-up inspection on 14 January 2008.

The following are the most important improvements since the previous SSP follow-up inspection:

- the good staff morale;
- the pupils' good behaviour and the respect they show for each other and for adults working in the school;
- the pupils' increased interest in learning;
- the leadership of the Principal and the SLT which is impacting positively on the quality of teaching and the pupils' learning;
- the higher percentage of pupils who have attained five or more General Certificate of Secondary Education subjects (or equivalent) at grades A* to C;

- the continuing emphasis on promoting literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum;
- the greater integration of ICT to support the pupils' learning;
- the further progress made in monitoring and evaluating the quality of the pupils' learning; and
- the classroom displays which celebrate the pupils' work.

As part of the follow-up inspection process, the school conducted its own evaluation of the progress in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection. The school submitted a self-evaluative report to the Inspectorate setting out its findings. There were many significant strengths in the school's approach to self-evaluation. The report provided clear evidence of good progress made following the previous inspection. The processes used to gather the evidence were generally effective. The Inspectorate confirms that the findings and recommendations contained in the self-evaluative report are accurate and appropriate, and are an effective response to the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection report.

The school has made good progress in addressing the key areas for action. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the school's commitment to, and action for improvement, and the effectiveness of its action in response to the findings of the SSP inspection.

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