

eti

*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

**Culcrow Primary School
Aghadowey**

November 2006

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF CULCROW PRIMARY SCHOOL, AGHADOWEY, COLERAINE, CO LONDONDERRY, BT51 4BT (301-2065)

The focused inspection in March 2003 highlighted strengths in a number of areas of the work of the school such as: the excellent relationships throughout the school, the strong caring ethos, the effective leadership of the Principal, the sound links with the Board of Governors (BoG) and parents, the motivation, enthusiasm and very good behaviour of the children, the hard-working and committed teachers and the good and sometimes excellent quality of much of the teaching and learning. All these strengths were evident in the follow-up inspection.

Under the areas for improvement, the inspection identified the need to develop further:

- the whole-school guidance for mathematics;
- the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to enhance learning and teaching across the curriculum; and
- the planned review of policy and procedures for pastoral care and child protection.

In the interval since the inspection, the following action, which affects the work of the school, has taken place:

- the school acquired additional resources for practical mathematics and for problem-solving activities;
- the staff participated in a range of in-service training focused on mathematics and ICT;
- there has been a review of the pastoral care and child protection policies; and
- the teachers have integrated ICT further into their planning and classroom practices.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a follow-up inspection in November 2006.

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

- the teachers' planning identifies appropriately the intended learning;
- the development of an appropriate scheme in mathematics indicates the progression in the skills and learning experiences;
- the children have very good opportunities to apply their learning to problem-solving and investigative activities in mathematics; and
- the school has procedures in place which implement the guidance outlined in the relevant Department of Education Circulars and has identified appropriately an

area for improvement which it is currently implementing. The minor area for improvement identified includes the need to update and review the training for the BoG regarding child protection matters pertaining to selection and recruitment.

Good progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection, which are now characterised by consistently good provision.

In the areas inspected, the school now has major strengths in its educational and pastoral provision. There are no significant areas for improvement. The educational and pastoral needs of the learners are well met.

The parents and the broader community can have confidence in the effectiveness of the school's response to the findings of the focused inspection and its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2007

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the DE website: www.deni.gov.uk or may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR.