

YOUTH INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Delamont Outdoor Education
Centre, Killyleagh

Report of a follow-up inspection
in January 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
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CUSTOMER
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FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DELAMONT OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE, JANUARY 2017

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection¹ of Delamont Outdoor Education Centre (the centre) in May 2015, when the overall effectiveness was evaluated as satisfactory².

The inspection report highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- for the Education Authority (EA) senior leaders, the warden and staff to establish a shared vision for the centre; in order to agree a well-focused development plan, which is appropriately targeted and resourced;
- to define clearer roles and responsibilities for all of the staff to meet effectively the targets and actions agreed in the new development plan; and
- to establish, embed and sustain effective methods of communication among the staff to bring about the required improvements in leadership and management.

The post-inspection action plan was submitted, adjusted appropriately in the light of feedback given by the ETI and was resubmitted prior to the follow-up inspection.

The ETI carried out two interim follow-up visits in December 2015 and in October 2016, and conducted a follow-up inspection in January 2017.

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

- the EA has produced an agreed development plan for all of its outdoor education centres;
- a new bursar was appointed on a temporary basis in October 2016;
- a training need analysis for the staff has been completed;
- a new system for gathering data on usage and for bookings has been established and is used as part of the quarterly reporting procedures;
- a pro-forma for both the young people and the centre staff has been introduced to gather feedback on their respective residential experiences;
- the centre is currently working towards a gold standard recognised accreditation in outdoor learning;
- all of the staff have received safeguarding training; certificates and notices are clearly displayed in the centre; and
- there is an on-going review of outdoor education centre provision across the EA.

¹ <https://www.etini.gov.uk/sites/etini.gov.uk/files/publications/%5Bcurrent-domain%3Amachine-name%5D/youth-inspection-delamont-outdoor-education-centre-killyleagh.pdf>

² The Education and Training Inspectorate changed the overall effectiveness from satisfactory to having important areas for improvement in June 2015

Key findings

The quality and effectiveness of the leadership and management is now good. The centre's development plan is well-focused with measurable targets that have been agreed with the EA and the centre staff. There are now clear and specific roles and responsibilities for all of the staff that is impacting positively on the provision. There is significant improvement in the quality and effectiveness of communication between and among the staff, including more regular meetings and an appropriate reporting system focused on the learning outcomes for the young people.

The quality of the provision remains good.

The standards and achievements remain good.

Overall effectiveness

Delamont Outdoor Education Centre demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interests of all of the learners. The ETI will monitor how the organisation sustains improvement. In particular, there is a need to continue to develop methods of involving the young people and the centre staff in the evaluation of the programmes, to inform more effectively the strategic planning of the provision.

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