



*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**



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Drumgor Primary School
Craigavon**

June 2011

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DRUMGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL, CRAIGAVON, CO ARMAGH, BT25 1AD (501-6080)

The focused inspection of Drumgor Primary School in March 2009 highlighted the following strengths: the very good quality of the pastoral care arrangements; the very good quality of education in the nursery unit; the very good behaviour, interest and motivation of most of the children; the good or better quality of teaching in the majority of the lessons observed; the children's confidence in talking and the level of engagement in reading by a majority of children; and the commitment of the Principal, Vice-principal and senior nursery unit teacher to making the best possible provision for all the children in the school.

The inspection identified the following areas for improvement:

- to develop further the leadership skills at all management levels in order to ensure consistently good standards of teaching and learning in the school;
- to establish a collegiate approach to the school development and planning process and to monitor and evaluate teaching and learning across the school in order to raise the children's levels of attainment in literacy and numeracy; and
- to develop further strategies for differentiation in order to meet more effectively the needs of all of the children.

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

- the teaching staff complement has been reduced from 12 to 11 and the special educational needs co-ordinator now has a full-time class teaching commitment;
- the roles and responsibilities of the co-ordinators have been reviewed;
- there is now a designated governor for child protection and the Board of Governors have completed a risk assessment with regards to public access to school grounds;
- the teachers have reviewed the literacy planning, have developed a whole-school literacy policy and have invested significant resources on the purchase of reading and library books to support learning and teaching in literacy;
- the numeracy policy has been reviewed to reflect more fully the requirements of the curriculum; and
- there has been extensive staff development in literacy, numeracy, analysis of data, special educational needs and school development planning with support from the Southern Education and Library Board Curriculum Advisory and Support Service;

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out one interim follow-up visit in April 2011, and a follow-up inspection on 13 June 2011.

The action plans developed by the school in response to the inspection findings, were satisfactory. The school's development plan has also 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 focused inspection:

- the children apply their reading skills and strategies more effectively and have good opportunities to write for a broader range of purpose and audience;
- the teachers make more effective analysis and use of the school's internal data to track the progress of individual children and to identify whole-school areas for development;
- the majority of teachers plan more effectively to meet the needs of all of the children; and
- there is a more collegiate approach to the school's development and planning process.

The remaining area for improvement includes the need to:

- develop further the processes for monitoring and evaluating the quality of learning and teaching in order to ensure progression in the children's learning and continued improvement in their levels of attainment in literacy and numeracy.

CONCLUSION

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is now good. The school has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The Inspectorate will monitor the school's progress in addressing the remaining area for improvement.

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