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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

Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Dungannon Primary School
Co Tyrone**

June 2010

FOLLOW UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DUNGANNON PRIMARY SCHOOL, CO TYRONE, BT71 6BE (501-2720)

The focused inspection in November 2008 highlighted strengths in the friendly and inclusive ethos, the quality of the teaching, the good standards in English achieved by the children, the high quality and effective provision for intensive learning support, the effectiveness of the senior management team and co-ordinators in guiding the staff and the good use made of Information and Communication Technology to support the children's learning. The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- to develop effective channels of communication at all levels, and
- to review the roles and responsibilities of all the staff and co-ordinators.

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

- the Principal left the school after the inspection to take up post in another school and the Vice-principal (VP) was Acting Principal until the appointment in March 2010 of the new Principal.
- the roles and responsibilities of the co-ordinators have been redefined and all have either received or attended appropriate training.
- there is close scrutiny of all school data by the senior management team (SMT).
- additional numeracy resources were purchased for use in Key Stage 1.
- A new planning format was introduced throughout the school which included planning for progression in mental mathematics.
- a formal link was established with two special schools.
- The school received valued support from the Southern Education and Library Board Curriculum Advisory Support Service.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out two monitoring visits in the interval since the initial inspection and a follow-up inspection on 10 June 2010.

The action plan produced by the organisation in response to the inspection findings was of good quality.

The new Principal has adjusted the school's development plan and has appropriately taken account of the financial resources to set more realistic targets for school improvement. The development plan meets the statutory requirements as set out by the Department of Education.

Outstanding progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection.

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

- the new Principal, VP and SMT have worked diligently with all of the staff to address the areas identified for improvement in the original inspection; they have provided excellent leadership for the staff and have ensured that the pace of change has been well-planned;

- the role of the co-ordinators has been developed further to take more account of teaching and learning and raising standards for all of the children;
- the SMT has been reorganised to include the Learning Support Centre co-ordinator, who provides appropriate advice and guidance for the children with additional learning needs throughout the school;
- the new Principal leads by example and, in addition to her leadership and management role, holds the position of special educational needs co-ordinator in the school;
- the school has appropriately focused on underachievement and has introduced various support programmes and resources for the children to improve attainment;
- the new planning format meets more effectively the diverse needs of the children and guides the staff in their day-to-day work; and
- the staff work very effectively as a team and there are open lines of communication at all levels.

Since the inspection, the school evaluated rigorously the progress made in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection.

The promotion of a self-evaluative culture throughout the follow-up inspection period contributed significantly to the improvement made, and helped the school identify appropriately its priorities for future development. The inspection confirms that, through effective self-evaluation, the school demonstrated clear evidence of improvement. Accordingly, the Inspectorate recommends that the processes for self-evaluation now in place are maintained.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education/training provided by this organisation is now outstanding; the quality of pastoral care is also outstanding. The organisation has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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