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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**



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## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of a Follow-up Inspection**

**Gaelscoil Éadain Mhóir  
Derry**

**May 2007**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF GAELSCOIL ÉADAIN MHÓIR, DERRY BT48 6NP (204-6646)**

The focused inspection in Gaelscoil Éadain Mhóir highlighted strengths in the strong sense of community, the excellent relationships at all levels, the exemplary standards of behaviour of the children, the strong sense of team-work, the consistently good quality of teaching, the hard-working teachers, the wide range of extra-curricular activities and the satisfactory standards achieved by the children in mathematics.

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

- resource provision for special educational needs (SEN) more fully in order to ensure that the support is targeted more specifically at the children in most need; and
- appoint co-ordinators in the key subject areas and to focus more sharply on planning for the curriculum and the standards of the children's learning.

In the interval since the inspection, the following changes, which affect the work of the school have taken place.

- the enrolment has increased slightly from 110 to 118;
- there are now three composite classes at the upper end of the school;
- the number of teachers has reduced from seven, at the time of the inspection to six;
- the Principal has resigned from his post and is now a full-time assistant teacher; and
- the school has appointed an acting Principal in the interim period.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a follow-up inspection on 18 May 2007.

The school has made satisfactory progress and the following are the most important improvements which have taken place since the focused inspection:

- co-ordinators have now been appointed for most areas of the curriculum; they have carried out a baseline assessment and are beginning to monitor the standards achieved by the children;
- the school has identified mathematical processes as an area for development and an action plan has been drawn up with the help of the Inter-Board Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) team. The children have weekly problem-solving activities in mathematics with incentives provided; and

- a range of standardised tests have been introduced to monitor the progress over time of individuals and groups of children. In addition, the school has introduced a Phonics system and is assessing the standards of reading attained by all of the children.

The Inspectorate will continue to monitor the work of the school to ensure that the improvements which are needed are implemented.

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