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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**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Gaelscoil Uí Néill
Coalisland**

March 2008

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF GAELSCOIL UÍ NÉILL, COALISLAND, CO TYRONE, BT71 4PU (504-6637)

The focused inspection of Gaelscoil Uí Néill in March 2005 highlighted the strengths of the school including:

- the warm, welcoming and caring ethos;
- very good relationships at all levels;
- the dedicated and hard-working staff;
- the pleasant, courteous and well-behaved children;
- the teachers' detailed written planning which specifies clearly the intended learning;
- the examples of very good teaching seen during the inspection;
- the support of the parents; and
- the effective links, including curricular, with other Irish-medium schools in the pre-school, primary and post-primary phases.

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

- the urgent need to ensure that guidance is followed in Child Protection matters; and
- the need for the principal to lead the staff in the effective monitoring and evaluation of the learning and teaching throughout the school.

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

- the school has enthusiastically engaged in an intensive programme of development and improvement under the guidance of officers from the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) of the Southern Education and Library Board and the inter-board Irish-medium CASS team.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a follow-up inspection on 11 March 2008.

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

- the school has thoroughly reviewed and amended its arrangements for Pastoral Care and Child Protection consulting with governors, children and parents and it now implements fully the guidance in the relevant Department of Education circulars; and
- the staff have agreed structures for the monitoring and evaluation of learning and teaching and these are being implemented effectively throughout the school.

Good progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. The educational and pastoral needs of the children are well met. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the effectiveness of the school's response to the findings of the inspection and its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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