



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
Department for Communities



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Killyleagh Primary School
County Down**

June 2016

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF KILLYLEAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL, COUNTY DOWN, BT30 9SR (401 1634)

The original inspection of Killyleagh Primary School carried out in November 2010¹ concluded that in most of the areas inspected, the quality of education provided in this school was satisfactory; the strengths outweighed the areas for improvement.²

A follow-up inspection (FUI) was conducted in June 2013³ and concluded that the quality of education provided in this school remained satisfactory.

A second follow-up inspection was conducted in April 2015⁴ and concluded that the quality of education provided in this school continued to be satisfactory.

The action plans received by the Department of Education following the inspection were of a good quality. The school's development plan was adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out a monitoring visit in November 2015.

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

- the staff have received very good professional development and support from the Education Authority in a number of areas including literacy and numeracy;
- the staff timetables have been reviewed enabling all teaching staff to support the development of literacy and numeracy throughout the school;
- the roles and responsibilities of the co-ordinators have been reviewed;
- the staff have visited other schools to observe and share effective practice; and
- the staff have strengthened their curricular links with the partner school in the federation and have developed strong links with a local cluster of primary schools in order to share good practice and provide mutual support.

Key Findings

- The standards and achievements are now good. Almost all of the children have made good or very good progress in their writing and numeracy.
- The work in the children's literacy books, and on display, evidences a wider range of genre and forms being taught throughout the school. The children have regular opportunities to plan, draft and re-draft their work which is impacting positively on the quality and standard of their writing.

¹ <http://www.etini.gov.uk/index/inspection-reports/inspection-reports-primary/inspection-reports-primary-2011/focused-inspection-killyleagh-primary-school-county-down.pdf>

² In 2015-16, the ETI changed the conclusions for the overall effectiveness of a school. The equivalent conclusion would be the school needs to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all the learners.

³ <http://www.etini.gov.uk/index/inspection-reports/inspection-reports-primary/inspection-reports-primary-2013/follow-up-inspection-killyleagh-primary-school-co-down.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.etini.gov.uk/index/inspection-reports/inspection-reports-primary/inspection-reports-primary-2015/follow-up-inspection-killyleagh-primary-school-co-down-2.pdf>

- The children demonstrate a wide knowledge of mental mathematics strategies and can answer questions efficiently and confidently, providing a rationale for their chosen strategy. The recent focus on problem solving, evidenced by a wide range of individual and collaborative problem-solving activities in the children's books, is developing effectively the children's knowledge of a range of problem solving types.
- The children respond positively to the well-chosen topics and themes and regular opportunities to reflect on and improve their learning through peer and self-assessment; this response is evident in the children's enjoyment of their learning, high levels of motivation and ability to articulate how to improve the standard of their work.
- The quality of the learning and teaching is now good; all of the lessons observed during the follow-up inspection were highly effective.
- The quality and effectiveness of leadership and management is now very good. The senior leadership team works strategically and effectively to set a culture of high expectation. A collegial approach to promoting school improvement is evident with all staff sharing their knowledge and expertise to build further capacity in learning and teaching.
- The subject co-ordinators have well-embedded and robust systems in place for monitoring and evaluating the provision for learning and the standard of the work the children achieve.
- Governors are very well informed about the life and work of the school through termly meetings with the subject co-ordinators.

Overall effectiveness

Killyleagh Primary School has demonstrated the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will continue to monitor how the school sustains improvement.

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