



*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

**Maralin Village Primary School
Magheralin**

December 2007

FOLLOW UP TO THE INSPECTION OF MARALIN VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, MAGHERALIN, BT67 0QZ (501-1687)

The focused inspection in Maralin Village Primary School in November 2004 highlighted strengths in the Christian ethos, the behaviour of the children, the support of the parents, the Board of Governors and the wider community, the hard-working teachers, the quality of much of the teaching, the attainment levels in English, the commitment and dedication of the Principal, the monitoring and evaluation of aspects of the teaching and learning, the range of extra-curricular activities, and the contribution of the ancillary staff.

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

- continue to extend the breadth of the children's experiences in English, especially in key stage (KS) 2;
- develop further the planning and co-ordination of structured play; and
- review the effectiveness and appropriateness of the pre-school provision in light of the guidance on pre school education provided by the Department of Education.

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

- the opening of the new school;
- the provision of a new nursery unit on the school site;
- the retirement of one member of staff;
- the adjustment of the school development plan to take account of the findings from the previous inspection;
- the introduction of a wider breadth of reading genre to enhance the children's reading experiences;
- the use of personal reading records for children in KS 2 to encourage reading for enjoyment;
- the introduction of KS meetings to monitor the progression in literacy;
- the participation of the children in the Southern Education and Library Board Reading Voyage programme; and
- the contribution to the production of the Northern-Eastern Education and Library Board Foundation Stage training material.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a follow-up inspection on December 2007.

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

- the greater emphasis placed on independent writing;
- the revised and detailed planning for literacy to organise and sequence the progression of lessons;
- the setting of clear targets in literacy to promote improvement and broaden the children's experiences in literacy;
- the effective monitoring of the children's classwork and books for evidence of independent writing;
- the new layout of the reception classroom and the purchase of new storage equipment for easy access by the reception children;
- the appointment of a structured play co-ordinator; and
- the effective support provided by the Curriculum and Advisory Support Service.

The promotion of a self-evaluative culture throughout the follow-up inspection period contributed significantly to the improvement made, and has helped the school identify appropriately its priorities for future development. The inspection confirms that, through self-evaluation, the school has demonstrated clear evidence of improvement.

Good progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. The educational and pastoral needs of the learners 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.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2008

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the DE website: www.deni.gov.uk or may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR.