



Providing Inspection Services for
Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**St Davog's Primary School
Belleek**

December 2007

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF ST DAVOG'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, BELLEEK, COUNTY FERMANAGH BT93 9FJ (203-6258)

The focused inspection in October 2005 highlighted strengths in the very positive and caring ethos, the good opportunities provided for extra-curricular links and the hard-working teachers and identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the implementation of the school development and planning process and the development of the school leadership and management in order to promote school improvement; and
- the update of Pastoral Care and Child Protection policies to meet the requirements of Department of Education (DE) circulars.

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

- The staff have availed of advice, guidance and support from the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) and the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS) in addressing the issues from the inspection.
- The Board of Governors have appropriately implemented policies to manage staff and have effectively reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the staff in the school.
- A new numeracy co-ordinator was appointed since the inspection; he has effectively led an update of the mathematics programme and systematically evaluated the children's standards in mathematics.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a series of inspection visits to the school as part of the follow-up process. This report was compiled following the inspection visit on 4 December, 2007 and also takes account of the findings of the visit in October 2006.

The school has a development plan which has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The following are the most important improvements brought about by the staff and the management group.

- The levels of consultation between the staff, governors, parents and children have improved. The staff are working together to identify areas of the school provision in need of improvement and a more proactive approach to action plan for improvement is being adopted.
- The staff have also benefited from attending cluster group sessions with other schools and the numeracy co-ordinator has effectively shared the monitoring and evaluation processes in numeracy.
- There is a strong commitment to the review and development of the Pastoral Care and Child Protection policies and procedures. Having received training from CCMS and

CASS the staff have now added new policies and procedures to meet the requirements of DE circulars introduced since the time of the inspection. These have been shared with the parents and the children.

The area which needs further improvement is:

- the effective implementation of the school development plan to ensure that the children are provided with consistent and appropriate teaching and learning opportunities in order to promote further improvements in their standards and experiences.

Since the inspection, the school evaluated the progress made in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection. The Inspectorate recommends that the processes for self-evaluation are developed to focus strongly on self-evaluation as a means to bring about improvement.

Good progress has been made in most of the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection but some minor areas still require improvement. The organisation is developing a rigorous process of self-evaluation which leads to improvement.

The school's progress in the minor areas for improvement will be followed-up by the District Inspector.

© 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.