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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**

**St Eugene's Primary School  
Derry**

**January 2007**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF ST EUGENE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, DERRY, BT48 7DS (203-6555)**

The focused inspection in October 2004 highlighted the following strengths:

- the good relationships within the school;
- the exemplary behaviour of the children;
- the quality of much of the teaching;
- the curricular leadership in mathematics and information and communication technology;
- the strong support of the Board of Governors; and
- the effective and visionary leadership of the Principal.

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

- for a more coherent approach to the planning in structured play; and
- to disseminate the existing good practice to all staff.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a follow-up inspection on 23 January 2007.

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

- The teachers in key stage 1 have visited other schools to examine planning for play-based learning. They have availed of school-based training by an early years specialist with the Western Education and Library Board's Curriculum Advisory and Support Service. They have worked effectively together to plan a coherent programme of play-based learning for years 1, 2 and 3 ensuring breadth, continuity and progression.
- Since the time of the original inspection the school has introduced a system of collaborative planning which has been very successful. There has also been a programme of peer classroom observation for all teachers. Teachers were asked to spend time observing practice in colleagues' rooms, discuss the lessons observed with their colleagues, and reflect on any issues that could be useful for their own practice and report on the experience to the Principal. Some members of staff are now at the point where they are confident enough to identify areas for development in their own practice and, through the Principal, arrange to observe lessons in these areas by colleagues. Much good work has been done in the area of dissemination of good practice and all staff have clearly benefited.

Very good progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. The provision in the areas for improvement originally identified is now characterised by many good features.

In the areas inspected, the school has important strengths in most of its educational provision. There are minor areas for improvement which the school has the capacity to address.

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

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