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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
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Providing Inspection Services for
**Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
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Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Tamnamore Primary School
Dungannon**

May 2007

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF TAMNAMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, BT71 6HW (501-2629)

The focused inspection in May 2005 highlighted strengths in the school's ethos, the attractive learning environment, the good links with the parents, the conscientious management of the Principal and the hard-working and committed teachers. The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the need to develop a more consistent approach to short-term planning and identify clearly the intended learning outcomes for the children and the different teaching approaches to be used to address the range of abilities within the composite classes; and
- the need to create action plans to take forward systematically and effectively issues identified in the School Development plan (SDP).

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a follow-up inspection on 11 May 2007.

In the interval since the inspection the following actions which affect the work of the school have taken place:

- a decision has been reached, between all concerned parties, to amalgamate the school with Killyman Primary School in September 2008;
- some additional resources have been purchased to support the development of information and communication technology in numeracy;
- the teachers have attended relevant courses to keep up to date with the current developments in education; and
- the Principal reports that the school has received excellent support from the Southern Education and Library Board Curriculum Advisory and Support Service in helping to address the areas identified for improvement at the time of the original inspection. A major focus has been the development of the numeracy plans across both key stages.

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

- There is a whole school approach to numeracy planning which is detailed and outlines clearly the intended learning outcomes, the teaching, learning and assessment activities and the key language and resources to be used. There is evidence to show the planning is used effectively to guide the teachers in their day-to-day work with the children. The staff should now focus on the area of evaluation as an ongoing part of the planning process.
- In the lessons observed the children were clear about the learning objectives, the quality of the teaching was high and there was a sense of fun in the practical activities.

- In the composite classes, a common theme runs through the lessons and there is clear differentiation in the planned activities to help ensure the needs and interests of all the children are met.
- The SDP has been reviewed and modified in line with the Education (School Development Plans) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005. Appropriate areas have been identified for improvement and development and detailed action plans have been drawn up to assist the process.
- The school has updated and implemented the requirements of the Department of Education (DE) Circular 2003/13 in relation to child protection as recommended at the time of the inspection, however since that time additional circulars have been introduced, namely, Circulars 2006/06/07/08 and 09. The school needs to ensure the requirements of these more recent DE circulars are implemented.

The Inspectorate acknowledges the good work of the management team and the commitment of the staff in addressing the areas for improvement in the interests of the children.

The school has made good progress in addressing the key areas for action. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the school's commitment to improvement and the effectiveness of its action in response to the findings of the focused inspection.

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