



*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 Short Inspection

Donaghmore Primary School Dungannon

Inspected: March 2008

BASIC INFORMATION SHEET (BIS) - PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- A. i. **School: Donaghmore Primary** iii. **Date of Inspection: W/B 12.03.08**
Dungannon
 ii. **School Reference Number: 501-2632** iv. **Nature of Inspection: Short**

B.

School Year	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Year 1 Intake	12	2	5	10	6
Enrolments					
Primary	50	46	44	54	52
Reception	0	0	0	0	0
Nursery Class/Classes	0	0	0	0	0
Special Unit	0	0	0	0	0

The enrolment for the current year is the figure on the day of notification of inspection.
 For previous years it is the figure in the annual return to the Department of Education.

The calculations at C and D should be based on the total of the primary and reception enrolments only.

- C. Average Attendance for the Previous School Year
 (expressed as a percentage): 96.88%

Primary & Reception	Nursery Unit	Special Unit
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- D. i. Number of Teachers
 (including the principal and part-time teachers): 4 0 0
 (Full-time equivalent = 25 teaching hours)
- ii. PTR (Pupil/Teacher Ratio): 17.3 NI PTR: 20.8
- iii. Average Class Size: 17
- iv. Class Size (Range): 16 to 19
- v. Ancillary Support:
 Number of Hours **Per Week**:
- | | |
|---|----|
| i. Clerical support: | 3 |
| ii. Official Making A Good Start Support: | 5 |
| iii. Additional hours of other classroom assistant support: | 25 |
- vi. Percentage of children with statements of special educational needs: 3.8%
- vii. Total percentage of children on the Special Needs Register: 23%
- viii. Number of children who are **not** of statutory school age: 0
- ix. Percentage of children entitled to free school meals: 3.8%

**DONAGHMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, DUNNGANNON, CO TYRONE, BT70 3EZ
(501-2632)**

Donaghmore Primary School is situated within the village of Donaghmore, three miles from Dungannon, County Tyrone. Almost all of the children come from the surrounding rural area; the current enrolment figure is 52. Approximately 4% of the children are entitled to receive free school meals; 12 children have been identified as requiring additional support with aspects of their learning.

The arrangements for the inspection of pastoral care and child protection included the opportunity for the parents and teachers to complete a confidential questionnaire prior to the inspection, as well as meetings with representatives from the Board of Governors (governors) and groups of children from year 6 and 7. Thirty-five families were issued with questionnaires; approximately 40% were returned to the Department of Education (DE) of which eight contained additional written comments. Most of the responses from the parental questionnaires highlighted the dedicated staff, and the happy and well-settled children. The teachers' responses, including one written comment, were wholly affirmative about the work of the school. The governors commented favourably on the very effective leadership provided by the Principal and the links with the local and wider community. The children in year 6 and 7 reported that they feel safe, enjoy school and know what to do in the event of a concern. The issues raised by some of the parents through the questionnaires were discussed with the Principal and the governors.

The school has procedures in place which implement the guidance outlined in the relevant DE Circulars and has identified, appropriately, areas for improvement which it is currently implementing. Among the strengths are; the caring and supportive ethos, the quality of the working relationships throughout the school and the links with external support agencies. The areas for improvement identified include the need to complete the review of the anti-bullying and discipline policies, in consultation with the parents and children.

The school gives very good attention to promoting health and well-being, including opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity. There are effective policies and programmes in place, for example the breakfast club, healthy breaks and appropriate links with external agencies, which encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles.

The strengths of the school include:

- the strong family ethos and the very good working relationships that exist at all levels;
- the excellent behaviour of the children, their high levels of motivation and the good standards they attain in their work;
- the hardworking and committed teachers and support staff;
- the good or better teaching observed in the majority of the lessons;
- the very good leadership provided by the Principal; and

- the effective links with local schools, businesses and the wider community and the very strong support of the parents, governors and the community for the life and work of the school.

The main area for improvement is the need to:

- develop further the monitoring and evaluation processes at all levels to ensure that the children are provided with a wider range of effective learning experiences.

It will be important that the employing authority, school governors and the staff plan for, and manage, issues related to the sustainability of the school provision and school budget, in order to address the current and future needs of the children and the staff.

CONCLUSION

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

The school's progress on the areas for improvement will be followed-up by monitoring visits, conducted by the District Inspector.

A number of quantitative terms are used in the report. In percentages, the terms correspond as follows:-

- More than 90% - almost/nearly all
- 75%-90% - most
- 50%-74% - a majority
- 30%-49% - a significant minority
- 10%-29% - a minority
- Less than 10% - very few/a small number.

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