

# PRIMARY INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Knockloughrim Primary School,  
Magherafelt

Report of an Inspection  
in May 2010

In this report, proportions may be described as percentages, common fractions and in more general quantitative terms. Where more general terms are used, they should be interpreted as follows:

Almost/nearly all	-	more than 90%
Most	-	75%-90%
A majority	-	50%-74%
A significant minority	-	30%-49%
A minority	-	10%-29%
Very few/a small number	-	less than 10%

In assessing the various features of the provision, Inspectors relate their evaluations to six descriptors as set out below:

DESCRIPTOR
Outstanding
Very Good
Good
Satisfactory
Inadequate
Unsatisfactory

## BASIC INFORMATION SHEET (BIS) - PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- A. i. **School:** Knockloughrim Primary Magherafelt  
 ii. **School Reference Number:** 301-6283  
 iii. **Date of Inspection:** 12/05/10  
 iv. **Nature of Inspection:** Short

B.

School Year	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Year 1 Intake	10	11	16	11	10
<b>Enrolments</b>					
Primary	52	60	63	67	71
Reception	0	0	0	0	0
Nursery Unit	0	0	0	0	0
Special Unit	0	0	0	0	0
Irish Medium 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):

97.3%

**NI Avg Att:** 94.9%

<b>Primary &amp; Reception</b>	<b>Nursery Unit</b>	<b>Special Unit</b>	<b>Irish Medium Unit</b>
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- D. i. Number of Teachers  
 (including the principal and part-time teachers): 5 0 0 0  
 (Full-time equivalent = 25 teaching hours)

- ii. PTR (Pupil/Teacher Ratio): 14.2 NI PTR: 20.4

- iii. Average Class Size: 17.75

- iv. Class Size (Range): 13 to 21

- v. Ancillary Support:

<b>Number of Hours Per Week:</b>	i. Clerical support:	15
	ii. Foundation Stage Classroom Assistant Support:	25
	iii. Additional hours of other classroom assistant support:	15

- vi. Percentage of children with statements of special educational needs: 0%

- vii. Total percentage of children on the Special Needs Register: 29%

- viii. Number of children who are **not** of statutory school age: 0

- ix. Percentage of children entitled to free school meals: 4%

- x. Percentage of children at the end of Key Stage 2 for 2008/09 who attained level 4 and above in English and mathematics: **English** 83% **Mathematics** 83%

# **KNOCKLOUGHRIM PRIMARY SCHOOL, MAGHERAFELT, CO LONDONDERRY, BT45 8QT (301-6283)**

## **SCHOOL CONTEXT**

Knockloughrim Primary School is situated in the village of Knockloughrim approximately four miles from Maghera. The majority of the children come from the village and surrounding rural area. The enrolment has increased steadily over recent years and is currently 69. At the time of the inspection just under 4% of the children were entitled to free school meals and just over 29% of the children were identified as requiring additional support with aspects of their learning.

## **FOCUS**

The inspection focused on:

- the children's achievements and standards in literacy and numeracy;
- the quality of provision for learning; and
- the quality of leadership and management.

## **THE VIEWS OF THE PARENTS, TEACHERS, SUPPORT STAFF, GOVERNORS AND CHILDREN**

The arrangements for the inspection included the opportunity for the parents, the teaching and the support staff to complete a confidential questionnaire prior to the inspection. Of the 46 questionnaires issued to the parents, 52% were returned to Inspection Services Branch, including 13 which contained additional written comments. The majority of the parental questionnaires and written comments indicated high levels of satisfaction with the work of the school, in particular, the child-centred ethos, the approachable staff and the good relationships between staff and the children. A minority of the parents raised some concerns which were discussed with the Principal and a representative of the Board of Governors (governors). The responses from the teachers and the support staff were very positive. The inspection team met with representatives of the governors; they expressed their support of the staff and the good working relationships within the school.

The inspectors also met with a group of year 6 children; they talked very positively about their experiences at school, including, the caring teachers, who support them and make learning enjoyable, and the extensive range of extra-curricular activities. The children are aware of what to do if they have worries about their safety or well-being.

## **PASTORAL CARE**

The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care in the school is outstanding. The strengths of the provision include: the caring and supportive ethos; the celebration of the children's academic work and wider achievements; and the development of the children's self-esteem confidence and independence.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

The school has satisfactory arrangements in place for safeguarding children. These arrangements reflect broadly the guidance issued by the Department of Education. The school needs to implement fully the guidance with respect to volunteers.

## HEALTHY EATING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The school gives very good attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity, for example, the nutritional quality of the school meals and the emphasis on sport, which together encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles.

The strengths of the school include:

- the outstanding quality of the pastoral care;
- the children's high levels of motivation, engagement and enjoyment in their learning;
- the quality of the teaching observed, which was always very good, with just under one third being outstanding;
- the improving standards in literacy and numeracy;
- the outstanding links, including those with local primary and post primary schools, which broaden and enhance the children's educational and social experiences; and
- the dedicated and child-centred leadership of the Principal and his commitment to improving the quality of the children's learning experiences.

## CONCLUSION

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by the school is very good. The school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- The fence around the perimeter of the school does not secure sufficiently the school grounds.

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