



*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

**St Tierney's Primary School
Roslea, Enniskillen**

Inspected: April 2008

BASIC INFORMATION SHEET (BIS) - PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- A. i. **School: St Tierney's Primary** iii. **Date of Inspection: 23.04.08**
Roslea, Enniskillen
 ii. **School Reference Number: 203-1868** iv. **Nature of Inspection: Short**

B.

School Year	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Year 1 Intake	14	7	8	7	16
Enrolments					
Primary	95	84	86	75	84
Reception	0	1	2	3	1
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): 94.8%

Primary & Nursery Special
Reception Unit Unit

- 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): 21.25 NI PTR: 20.8
- iii. Average Class Size: 22.5
- iv. Class Size (Range): 16 to 29
- v. Ancillary Support:
 Number of Hours **Per Week**: i. Clerical support: 23.5
 ii. Official Making A Good
 Start Support (MAGS): 10
 iii. Additional hours of other
 classroom assistant support: 7.5
- vi. Percentage of children with statements of special educational needs: 1.7%
- vii. Total percentage of children on the Special Needs Register: 14.45%
- viii. Number of children who are **not** of statutory school age: 1
- ix. Percentage of children entitled to free school meals: 15.30%

**ST TIERNEY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ROSLEA, ENNISKILLEN,
CO Fermanagh, BT92 7JS (203-1868)**

St Tierney's Primary School is situated in a pleasant rural setting in the village of Roslea. The enrolment, which currently sits at 84, has remained steady over the past four years; most of the children come from the surrounding area.

Approximately 15% of the children are entitled to free school meals; the school has identified 14.45% of the children to be in need of additional support in aspects of their learning.

The arrangements for the inspection of pastoral care included the completion of confidential questionnaires by the staff and parents, and meetings with the Board of Governors (governors) and with a group of children from year 6. Prior to the inspection, 60 families received questionnaires on the life and work of the school. Thirty parents (50%) forwarded responses to the Department of Education (DE), of which eight included additional written comments. The responses from the questionnaires and the comments from the parents expressed strong support for the work of the school; they commended the role of the school in the community and the care provided for the children. A very few areas of concerns raised by individual parents were discussed with the governors and the Principal and are addressed in the body of the report.

The children reported that they feel safe and secure within the school and know what to do in the event of a concern regarding their education and well-being.

The teaching staff responded through an on-line questionnaire; the responses have been shared with the Principal and the governors and are addressed in the body of the report.

The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care and child protection has important strengths. The school has procedures in place which implement the guidance outlined in the relevant DE Circulars and has identified appropriately a few areas for improvement which it is currently implementing. Among the strengths are:

- the contributions made to charities;
- the efforts made to provide enrichment for the children through participation in extra-curricular activities; and
- the developing culture of consultation with the parents and children.

The school's programme for the promotion of health and well-being has strengths, with a developing commitment, through the Smart Snacks award to encourage the children to eat healthily and be physically active.

The school has significant strengths, which include:

- the children's very good behaviour and co-operation with the staff;
- the hard work of the staff whose satisfactory to good teaching is leading to the development of competent learners who are generally achieving standards in line with their ability;

- the arrangements to encourage tolerance and respect for diversity and effectively contribute to the good educational attainment of children with English as an additional language;
- the teaching Principal's effective leadership, as exemplified in his commitment to improving the school in order to ensure a good education for the children;
- the effective contribution of the support staff to the children's learning and the caring ethos of the school; and
- the strong support of and commitment by the governors to enable the school community to embrace the necessary processes of self-evaluation.

The inspection identified areas for improvement. The following are the most important areas that need attention.

- There is a need to develop further the leadership and management skills of the post-holders in order to more effectively monitor, evaluate and influence collaborative whole-school improvement; particularly in relation to special educational needs.
- The school needs to develop robust self-evaluation procedures, through a culture of supportive team-work and introduce appropriate reporting structures, in order to manage the school development and planning process for school improvement.
- The School Development Plan needs to include the targets set for literacy and numeracy and be amended to meet fully the requirements of the School Development Plans Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005.

In the areas inspected, the school has strengths in many aspects of its educational and pastoral provision. The inspection has identified a few areas for improvement in important areas which need to be addressed to meet effectively the needs of all the learners.

The Education and Training Inspectorate will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing these areas for improvement.

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.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- There is a need to install a secure access system to all the entrances to the school building.

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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