

eti

*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

Stewartstown Primary School
Co Tyrone

Inspected: February 2009

BASIC INFORMATION SHEET (BIS) - PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- A. i. **School: Stewartstown Primary School** iii. **Date of Inspection: W/B 02.02.2009**
 ii. **School Reference Number: 501-2643** iv. **Nature of Inspection: Short**

B.

School Year	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Year 1 Intake	4	8	5	4	4
Enrolments					
Primary	35	38	34	35	30
Reception	-	-	-	-	-
Nursery Class/Classes	-	-	-	-	-
Special Unit	-	-	-	-	-

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):

94.9%

Primary & Reception	Nursery Unit	Special Unit
------------------------	-----------------	-----------------

- D. i. Number of Teachers
(including the principal and part-time teachers):
(Full-time equivalent = 25 teaching hours)

2.4

-

-

- ii. PTR (Pupil/Teacher Ratio):

12.5

NI PTR: 20.8

- iii. Average Class Size:

4.3

- iv. Class Size (Range):

4 to 8

- v. Ancillary Support:
Number of Hours **Per Week**:

- | | |
|---|----|
| i. Clerical support: | 8 |
| ii. Official Making A Good Start Support: | 20 |
| iii. Additional hours of other classroom assistant support: | 10 |

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

3.3%

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

17%

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

0

- ix. Number of families in school

20

- x. Percentage of children entitled to free school meals:

33%

**STEWARTSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL, STEWARTSTOWN, CO TYRONE
BT71 5HY (501-2643)**

Stewartstown Primary School is situated within the village of Stewartstown, three miles from Coalisland, County Tyrone. Almost all of the children come from the surrounding rural area; the enrolment has declined over recent years and is currently thirty children. Approximately one-third of the children are entitled to receive free school meals. Seventeen percent of the children have been identified as requiring additional support with aspects of their learning.

The arrangements for the inspection included the opportunity for the parents and teachers to complete a confidential questionnaire prior to the inspection, as well as a meeting with a representative from the Board of Governors (governors) and a group of children from year 5, 6 and 7. Twenty families were issued with questionnaires; half were returned to the Department of Education of which two contained additional written comments. The responses from the parental questionnaires highlighted the contribution made by the dedicated staff, and the happy and well settled children. The responses from the teachers were very affirmative of the work of the school. The representative from the governors expressed strong support and appreciation for the work of the school and commended the school's caring ethos. The children in year 5, 6 and 7 reported that they feel safe, enjoy school and know what to do in the event of a concern. The very few issues raised by some of the parents through the questionnaires and the written comments were discussed with the Principal and the representative from the governors.

The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care in the school is very good. This is evident through the excellent working relationships between the children and the teachers and the very caring and supportive ethos. There is a wide range of educational visits to support and enhance the children's learning.

The school has very good comprehensive arrangements in place for safeguarding children. These arrangements reflect the guidance of the relevant department.

The school gives very good attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity, for example healthy breaks and a wide range of extra-curricular activities, which encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles.

The strengths of the school include:

- the exemplary behaviour of the children and their positive attitudes to learning;
- the good to very good teaching observed;
- the good standards achieved by most of the children in English and mathematics;
- the hardworking and dedicated teachers and support staff; and
- the commitment of the Principal to the life and work of the school.

The main area for improvement is to:

- develop further the processes for monitoring and evaluating the quality of learning and teaching within the context of a well-focused and prioritised school development plan.

CONCLUSION

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by the school is good. The school has important strengths in most of its educational provision. The inspection has identified an area for improvement which the school has the capacity to address.

The education and Training Inspectorate will monitor the school's progress on the area 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.

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.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2009

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the DE website: www.deni.gov.uk or may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR.