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*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

Report of an Inspection Survey

Information and Communication Technology

Park Education Resource Centre
Belfast

March 2007

INSPECTION SURVEY IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) 2007 (131-6500)

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a survey in ICT of Park Education Resource Centre, Belfast in March 2007. The strengths and areas for development were identified as follows.

Strengths of the work include:

- the comprehensive, whole-school documentation and associated action plans developed to take forward ICT throughout the school;
- the excellent accommodation and resources for ICT; the school has a good pupil-computer ratio and the acquisition of ten interactive whiteboards has contributed much to the ongoing development of the pupils' ICT experiences;
- the effective programme of in-house staff training organised by the ICT co-ordinator to enhance further the teachers' ICT competences;
- the broad and relevant provision for ICT tailored to the needs of the pupils;
- the establishment of a range of effective ICT links and the participation in a series of ICT pilots designed to enhance the profile of ICT in the school; and
- the good response and engagement from the pupils in lessons where ICT is used well by the teachers to achieve the learning outcomes and to provide enrichment through the deployment of suitable, well-chosen ICT resources.

Areas for development include:

- the need to introduce more formal arrangements for the assessment of the pupils' ICT competences at the end of key stage 3;
- the need for the school to carry out a more thorough analysis of the pupils' prior learning in ICT on entry to the school; and
- the need for more subject departments to identify more clearly opportunities for the use of ICT in their schemes of work.

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