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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**



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Carrick Primary School
Lurgan**

November 2013

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF CARRICK PRIMARY SCHOOL, LURGAN, CO ARMAGH (501-1127)

The original inspection of Carrick Primary School in 2012 evaluated the quality of education provided as satisfactory and highlighted a range of strengths. These included: the exemplary behaviour of the children; the good quality of the provision for literacy and numeracy; the good or better teaching in two-thirds of the lessons observed; the high quality provision in the Education Centre for Speech and Language and the Nursery Unit; the good quality of the pastoral care, including the excellent provision for the children in the playground; and the effective focus by the principal and the staff on raising the standards attained by the children.

It also highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- to review and develop the roles and responsibilities within the senior leadership team to ensure more effective and equitable strategic leadership within the school; and
- to improve the quality of the provision in the majority of the classes in the Learning Support Centre.

In the interval since the inspection, the following actions which affect the work of the school have taken place:

- one member of staff has retired;
- teachers have been allocated to different year groups;
- a new literacy co-ordinator has been appointed; and
- support from the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service of the Southern Education and Library Board in leadership and management, learning and teaching has been used effectively by the school to bring about improvement.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a monitoring visit and a follow-up inspection in November 2013. During the follow-up inspection, one member of staff was absent.

The action plans received by the Department of Education following the inspection were of a good quality and the school's development plan was adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The following are the most important improvements since the original inspection:

- the quality of the provision in the Learning Support Centre which is now very good;
- the majority of the teaching in the Learning Support Centre which is now outstanding;
- the quality of the arrangements for the pastoral care of the children in the Learning Support Centre which is now very good;

- the comprehensive arrangements for safeguarding the children; and
- the effective monitoring by the principal with the support of the governors to implement a more equitable distribution and fulfilment of duties within the senior leadership team.

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

The area for improvement is the need to:

- continue to develop the effectiveness of the strategic leadership of assessment and ICT to improve further the quality of the provision to meet the needs of the children.

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