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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

Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Parkanaur College
Thomas Doran Trust
Dungannon**

October 2008

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF PARKANAUR COLLEGE, DUNGANNON, CO TYRONE, BT70 3AA

The original inspection in September 2005 highlighted a number of strengths in the college which include:

- the leadership of the senior tutor who manages the provision efficiently and demonstrates a notable vision for the vocational training and pastoral care of the students;
- the commitment of the staff to the students and their awareness of the complex and individual needs of these young people;
- the supportive environment where the students feel valued and where their needs are addressed; pastoral care and protection arrangements for vulnerable adults are fit for purpose and appreciated by the parents;
- the students demonstrate great loyalty to the college and to the staff, and have a good level of interest in their work; they behave well and work at a slow but steady pace;
- the high quality of the working relationships established through a team approach involving both staff and students;
- the thorough initial assessment to inform the planning of individualised programmes for the students;
- the practical and positive approach to learning generated throughout the working sessions;
- the progression rates to employment, further education or training;
- the support offered to parents/carers; and
- the extensive and appropriate staff development programme.

The inspection also identified the need for improvement in the following areas:

- ongoing monitoring and evaluation of all of the outcomes for each student in their vocational work and in their personal and social development;
- the extension of provision for work placements for the students; and
- the development of a more structured programme of personal, social and health education to meet the individual needs of the students in preparation for supported and independent living.

On a more strategic level, the college needed to address two important issues which had implications for the future viability of the college:

- the small number of students attending the college; and
- the funding which should differentiate between educational costings and residential accommodation costings, particularly for those students for whom Health and Social Services have a key role.

In the interval since the inspection, the following changes which affect the work of the college, have taken place:

- the securing of funding for residential vocational training for 15 students from the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL);
- a change in status to an adult residential home and the appointment of a residential manager which has brought about more stability to the college; and
- a distinction between young people who access vocational training on a residential basis, and those residential clients funded by the Department of Health and Social Services and Personal Safety.

In October 2008, the Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a follow-up inspection, and the following are the most significant improvements since the original inspection:

- more effective monitoring and evaluation arrangements, including the documentation for planning, recording and reporting the progress of the students;
- the individual training programmes for students, setting appropriate progression targets which are effectively monitored;
- heightened action taken to increase the provision of work placements for students;
- a more structured programme of activities to meet the personal, social and emotional needs of the young people through for example the XL Programme and the Prince's Trust;
- improved processes for self-evaluation; and
- improved multi-agency collaboration and co-operation in the interests of the young people, reflecting the good work of the senior tutor.

The area which remains in need of further improvement is:

- the further exploration with DEL to provide government funded training under the Training for Success programme.

Good progress has been made in most of the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. The college is developing a rigorous process of self-evaluation which leads to improvement.

In the areas inspected, the quality of training provided by the college is good. The college has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The follow-up inspection has identified one area for improvement to be addressed but equally the organisation has demonstrated the capacity to address this. The Inspectorate will monitor the college's progress in addressing the remaining area for improvement.

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