

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

Bunscoil an Traonaigh Lisnaskea

November 2010

SECOND FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF BUNSCOIL AN TRAONAIGH, LISNASKEA, CO FERMANAGH, BT92 0PE (204-6669)

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a focused inspection of Bunscoil an Traonaigh in May 2007 and a follow-up inspection (FUI) in May 2009. As a result of the inspection findings the school entered the Formal Intervention Process (FIP). The Inspectorate carried out a second FUI in November 2010.

In the interval since the original focused inspection and the second FUI, the school has received advice, guidance and support from the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) of the Western Education and Library Board (WELB) and the Inter-board Irish-Medium CASS in the following areas:

- leadership and management including school development planning for improvement;
- development of the provision for raising standards in literacy and numeracy;
- teaching and learning strategies; and
- development and implementation of policies and management structures to guide the work of the staff.

Three interim follow-up visits were carried out in October, 2009, January 2010 and June 2010 which indicated that the school was making satisfactory progress; however, one permanent member of the teaching staff was absent in June 2010 and also at the time of the second FUI.

The school provided a good action plan in response to the inspection findings and adjusted the School Development Plan in light of the requirements of the FIP.

At the time of the second FUI on 24 November 2010 the following actions which affect the work of the school have taken place:

- high quality intensive support, advice and guidance has been provided by CASS of the WELB and the Inter-board Irish-Medium CASS to meet the staff training and school development planning needs;
- the teacher-in-charge of the school has developed a wider range of leadership and management skills;
- an additional key stage (KS) 2 teacher was appointed to teach in KS2 and to develop provision in mathematics;
- in September 2010 an Acting Principal was appointed for two days per week and is supporting effectively the on-going strategic development of the school; and
- the school has secured purpose-built accommodation and an additional storage facility.

The following are the most important improvements since the original inspection and entry to the FIP:

the teachers were vetted in line with the requirements of the DE Circulars;

- the policies for pastoral care and child protection have been reviewed and communicated to parents;
- the children's standards in writing in both Irish and English have improved and are in line with the wide range of abilities; a majority of the older children can produce extended written work;
- the roles and responsibilities of the co-ordinators are being developed appropriately to include more effective use of data in order to set targets for improving the children's achievements in writing;
- the children participate in the local feis and have been successful in a number of competitions;
- the leadership and management of the school has been strengthened and there
 is a good school development plan and associated action plans to guide the
 school improvement process;
- information and communication technology is developing appropriately to support literacy and the children's learning;
- the school leaders are aware of, and take responsibility for improving their curricular roles and extending the children's range of experiences across the curriculum; and
- the Board of Governors has been extended to include a wider range of expertise to support the developmental needs of the school.

In most of the areas inspected the quality of education provided in this school is now satisfactory; the strengths outweigh areas for improvement in the provision. The inspection has identified an area for improvement in writing standards particularly in marking for improvement which should be addressed if the needs of all the learners are to be met more effectively. The Inspectorate will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing the area for improvement.

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