



*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

**Dromore Central Primary School
Co Down**

June 2011

FOLLOW-UP TO THE SHORT INSPECTION OF DROMORE CENTRAL PRIMARY SCHOOL, CO DOWN, BT25 1AD (501-1575)

The short inspection of Dromore Central Primary School in May 2009 highlighted the following strengths: the strong sense of community that pervades the school; the quality of the teaching observed; the majority of which was good or better; the very good behaviour of the majority of the children; the opportunities for the children to contribute to decision making; and the hard-working Principal who is committed to making the best possible provision for all of the children.

The inspection identified the following areas for improvement:

- to develop more effective planning at all levels in order to ensure consistently high levels of learning and teaching; and
- to carry out a more rigorous monitoring and evaluation of all aspects of the school's provision in order to inform the school development planning process and to raise further the children's level of attainment in literacy and numeracy.

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

- the review of the management structure, including the roles and responsibilities of the co-ordinators;
- the appointment of five new members of staff;
- a wide range of staff development in literacy, numeracy, analysis of data, teachers' planning, self-evaluation and school development planning with support from the Southern Education and Library Board Curriculum Advisory and Support Service;
- the completion of an audit of the provision for mathematics and the development of connected learning units;
- the review of the Child Protection Policy which now includes an up-to-date record of child protection training, the procedures for vetting and the complaints procedure; and
- the purchase of interactive whiteboards for all classes.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out one interim follow-up inspection visit in February 2011, and a follow-up inspection on 8 June 2011.

The action plans developed by the school in response to the inspection findings, were of a good quality. The school's development plan has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings. The development plan meets the statutory requirements as set out by the Department of Education.

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

- the collegiate and reflective approach of the staff to school improvement since the inspection;

- the detailed planning at all levels to improve levels of learning and teaching;
- the school has made effective use of internal data to track the progress of individual children, which has resulted in the improved standards of attainment for most of the children targeted for support;
- the connected learning topics are integrated to promote the children's literacy, numeracy and thinking skills; and
- the very good monitoring and evaluation by the Principal, Vice-principal and co-ordinators to inform the school's development planning process in order to bring about improvement in the standards attained by the children in literacy and numeracy.

CONCLUSION

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is now good. The school has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The follow-up inspection has identified some aspects of the areas for improvement still to be addressed but equally the school has demonstrated the capacity to address these.

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