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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
Promoting Improvement*



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**Department of Education  
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Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**



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## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of a Follow-up Inspection**

**Gortnagarn Primary School  
Omagh**

**November 2007**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE SHORT INSPECTION OF GORTNAGARN PRIMARY SCHOOL, OMAGH, CO TYRONE, BT79 7SP (203-2712)**

The short inspection in October 2005 highlighted strengths in the good quality of the teaching and the hard-working, enthusiastic and caring teachers. The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following areas:

- the pastoral care and child protection procedures;
- the planning for teaching and learning across the curriculum; and
- the assessment procedures.

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

- the policy and procedures with regard to Pastoral Care and Child Protection have been revised;
- the format for the medium-term planning has been changed; and
- the assessment procedures have been reviewed.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a follow-up inspection on 14 November 2007.

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

- the views of the parents and children on pastoral care arrangements have been sought through the use of questionnaires;
- the quality of the teachers' lesson evaluations is good and they help shape the future activities, experiences and learning for the children;
- strategies for Assessment for Learning are being used already to promote improvement in the children's learning; and
- the results of standardised tests are being used effectively at class and individual levels.

In all of the lessons observed during the follow-up inspection, the teaching had many good features.

As part of the follow-up inspection process, the school conducted its own evaluation of the progress in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection. The school submitted a self-evaluative report to the Inspectorate setting out its findings.

There were significant strengths in the school's approach to self-evaluation. The report provided clear evidence of good progress made following the original short inspection. The processes used to gather the evidence were effective. The Inspectorate confirms that the findings and recommendations contained in the self-evaluative report are accurate and appropriate, and are an effective response to the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection report.

The school has made very good progress in addressing the key areas for action. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the school commitment to and action for improvement, and the effectiveness of its action in response to the findings of the short inspection.

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