



*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**

**Greenisland Primary School  
Carrickfergus**

**October 2011**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE SHORT INSPECTION OF GREENISLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARRICKFERGUS, CO ANTRIM (301-0817)**

The short inspection of Greenisland Primary School, in October 2009, highlighted the following strengths: the excellent behaviour of the children, their motivation and positive attitudes towards learning; the good standards achieved by the children in English and mathematics, the good quality of most of the teaching observed and the opportunities for the children to experience an additional language.

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

- to adopt a more rigorous and systematic approach to monitoring and evaluating the work of the school and the standards achieved by all of the children; and
- for management, at all levels, to provide stronger curricular leadership in order to promote a broader range of teaching strategies and enrich the learning experiences for all of the children.

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

- staff development and support for planning, literacy and numeracy has been provided by the North-Eastern Education and Library Board's Curriculum Advisory and Support Service;
- a new School Development Plan is being created, in consultation with the staff and the parents;
- the roles and responsibilities of the co-ordinators in the key areas, particularly relating to monitoring and evaluating have been clarified and developed;
- a good start has been made to the collation and analysis of performance data and resulting identification of individual, class and year target groups and intervention is beginning to demonstrate improvements in the underachievement in literacy;
- staff development has been provided to empower the teachers and co-ordinators to undertake their roles more collaboratively; two classroom assistants have attended training to implement the Reading Together programme and reading records have been introduced in a systematic manner; and
- provision has been enhanced to involve the parents and the local community more in the life and work of the school and the children.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out one interim follow-up visit in March 2011 and a follow-up inspection in October 2011.

The action plan produced by the school in response to the inspection findings was 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 roles and responsibilities of key co-ordinators are developing and they have begun to monitor and evaluate the introduction of a wider range of teaching strategies;
- a stronger focus has been placed on matching the work more closely to the abilities and individual needs of all the children through the teachers weekly planners and the analysis of the internal data;
- the quality of teaching in the lessons observed during the follow-up was good or very good;
- more effective communication systems are in place to develop further the partnership with the parents and the community; and
- there is a developing shared vision for school improvement and more of a collaborative approach to whole school development.

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.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- The lack of car parking space around the school results in hazardous conditions for the children arriving and departing from school continues to be an ongoing problem for the school.

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