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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
Promoting Improvement*



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

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**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**

**Greenwood House Assessment Centre  
Belfast**

**February 2008**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF GREENWOOD HOUSE ASSESSMENT CENTRE, BELFAST, BT4 3JJ (131-0017)**

The focused inspection in March 2005 highlighted strengths in the strong, caring ethos; the good quality leadership; the strong sense of team-work and multi-disciplinary co-operation throughout the school; and the often excellent quality of the teaching. The inspection also identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- to review the complement of classroom assistants to ensure sufficient support and full compliance with pastoral care and child protection policy and procedures;
- to further develop the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to promote the development of the pupils' language; and
- to develop the co-ordinator roles within the school including the monitoring and evaluation of the quality of the teaching and learning.

In the interval since the inspection, there have been several changes in staffing. A new Principal was appointed and has subsequently been appointed to another school. The Vice-principal has been Acting-Principal since his departure and the appointment of another new Principal is pending. At the time of the inspection, considerable changes in teaching staff had recently taken place.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a follow-up inspection in February 2008.

The school evaluated rigorously the progress made in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection and the staff adjusted the school's development plan in light of the inspection findings.

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

- the school has appointed an additional classroom assistant after a review of staffing in partnership with the Belfast Education and Library Board, and is now able to better meet the needs of the pupils in the areas identified;
- the progress made in developing ICT throughout the school to ensure good quality learning experiences for the pupils; and
- the good start made in developing further the role of the co-ordinators, and the continuing development of an agreed structure for monitoring the quality of the learning and teaching.

The promotion of a self-evaluative culture throughout the follow-up inspection period contributed significantly to the improvements made, and helped the school identify appropriately its priorities for future development. The inspection confirms that, through effective self-evaluation, the school demonstrated clear evidence of improvement. Accordingly, the Inspectorate recommends that the processes for self-evaluation now in place are maintained.

Very good progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. The educational and pastoral needs of the pupils are well met. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the effectiveness of the school's response to the findings of the inspection and its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

**ACCOMMODATION**

- The school is currently waiting for a replacement building within the Department of Education timetable for new school buildings. The current building is falling into disrepair and requires routine maintenance until such times as a replacement scheme is finalised and underway.

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