



*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

**St Patrick's Primary School
Mayobridge**

June 2011

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MAYOBRIDGE, BT34 2EX (503-1697)

The inspection of St Patrick's Primary School in November 2009 highlighted strengths in the outstanding quality of pastoral care, the exemplary behaviour and high levels of motivation of the children, the quality of the teaching which ranged from good to outstanding, the commitment shown by all the staff, the dedicated Principal and the central role played by the school in the local community.

The inspection identified the following key area for improvement:

- to continue to develop the effective use of the school's data to inform strategic planning and implementation of appropriate strategies to raise further the standards in literacy and numeracy across the school.

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

- the enrolment has increased by 16, from 255 to 271 and the number of children entitled to free school meals has increased from 12% to 17%;
- there has been a number of key changes in management, including the appointment of a new Vice-principal who has responsibility for leading developments in assessment and literacy, the appointment of a new numeracy co-ordinator and the restructuring of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT);
- the SLT has participated in leadership and management training and there has been well-focused training for all teachers in the analysis and effective use of performance data;
- the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator now has a full-time class teaching commitment;
- one member of staff has completed the Professional Qualification for Headship;
- the SLT has reviewed the school's assessment and recording procedures;
- the school has made a significant investment in additional resources to support learning and teaching in literacy; and
- the school has received very good support from the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools and from the Southern Education and Library Board Curriculum and Advisory Support Services.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out two monitoring visits, and a follow-up inspection on 16 June 2011.

The school produced an appropriate action plan in response to the inspection findings.

The following are the most important improvements since the inspection:

- the teachers have a good understanding of how the school's performance evidence can be used to raise the standards for all of the children; they are using this information effectively to inform target-setting, planning and monitoring of the children's progress;
- there is a whole-school focus on identifying and addressing underachievement, which has resulted in the implementation of appropriate intervention programmes in literacy and an improvement in the learning outcomes for targeted groups of children;
- the effective monitoring of the children's personal reading habits and of the guided reading practices within classes has led to improvements in the children's standards in reading;
- there has been a steady increase in the numbers of children attaining average or better than average standards in English and mathematics; and
- the co-ordinators have made effective use of the outcomes of standardised tests to identify areas for further monitoring and development at class and whole-school level in order to raise further the children's levels of attainment in literacy and numeracy.

CONCLUSION

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this school is now very good. The school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the learners; and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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