

eti

*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
Promoting Improvement*



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Providing Inspection Services for
**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

**Tildarg Primary School
Ballyclare**

September 2007

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF TILDARG PRIMARY SCHOOL, BALLYCLARE, CO ANTRIM, BT39 9JU (301-0404)

The focused inspection of Tildarg Primary School, Ballyclare in January 2005 highlighted strengths in the caring family ethos and pastoral care of the children, the strong support of the local community, the industrious and conscientious staff, the pleasant and courteous children, the broad range of the children's learning experiences in mathematics, including oral and practical work, and the good standards achieved by the children in mathematics.

As areas for improvement, the inspection identified the need to:

- link the information and communication technology (ICT) planning and activities more explicitly to the framework for progression; and
- ensure that the in-class support for those children with special educational needs complements more fully the work experienced in the withdrawal sessions.

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

- the staff of the school has increased by one teacher;
- the school's ICT resources have been updated;
- the school has established a useful link with a local post-primary school that has specialist school status for ICT;
- the planning for children with additional learning needs is shared between the teachers and the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator; and
- the school has drawn up a new school development plan and associated action plans that focus on appropriate areas for further improvement.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a follow-up inspection in September 2007.

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

- the further development of an effective climate of self-evaluation within the school;
- the increasingly effective integration of the children's ICT knowledge and skills into many areas of their learning; and
- the effective communication and use of information to support the progress of those children with additional learning needs.

Good progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. The educational and pastoral needs of the learners are being 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.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2007

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR. A copy is also available on the DE website: www.deni.gov.uk