



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:
Department of Education
Department for the Economy



Department of
Education

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Mrs Anne Clarke
Principal
Killowen Primary School
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27 January 2017

Dear Mrs Clarke

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Killowen Primary School in October 2015 and, as a result, the school entered the formal intervention process later that month. The Department of Education (DE) indicated at that time that a follow-up inspection would take place and that an interim follow-up visit (IFUV) would monitor the progress being made in bringing about the necessary improvements.

The action plans received by the DE following the inspection were of a good quality and adjusted appropriately in the light of feedback given by the ETI. The school's development plan has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The areas for improvement were discussed with the school during the IFUV that was carried out by the ETI on 24 January 2017. During this visit, a representative of the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) of the Education Authority and a representative from the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS) reported to the ETI on the nature and extent of the support provided to the school in the interval since the original inspection. The acting principal and associate principal reported that they were satisfied with the level of support to date for Killowen Primary School in this interim period.

The IFUV has identified that the school is addressing partially the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection report. In particular the school is:

- addressing very well the safeguarding arrangements, which were unsatisfactory at the time of the original inspection and are now satisfactory;
- reviewing effectively the school's admissions policy for enrolment in the reception class;

- developing more effective communication between the governors, the principal, the staff and the parents;
- experiencing more effective leadership and direction under the associate principal and acting principal; and
- defining clear roles and responsibilities for the learning co-ordinators.

However, there remains a need to:

- ensure that the senior leadership and learning co-ordinators adopt a more systematic approach to monitoring and evaluating the impact of action planning on the quality of learning and teaching; particularly in the foundation stage.

The District Inspector will continue to monitor the school's provision and a formal follow-up inspection will be conducted within the agreed timescales.

Yours sincerely



JACQUELINE KELLY
Inspection Services Team

cc Chairperson of the Board of Governors
Education Authority Northern Ireland
School Improvement team, DE