

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection

REPORT

Ainm na scoile/ School name	Dominican College
Seoladh na scoile/ School address	Wicklow Co. Wicklow
Uimhir rolla / Roll number	61860V

Date of Evaluation: 01-06-2017



Follow-Through Inspection

ORIGINAL INSPECTION DETAILS	FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTION DETAILS
Type: WSE MLL Date of Inspection: 26-05-16 Report Published: Yes	Date of Inspection: 01-06-2017
<p>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with principal and deputy principal • Interview with relevant teachers • Review of school documentation • Meeting with chairperson of board of management 	
Recommendation in original inspection report	Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation
<p>The board of management and senior management, in collaboration with the whole school community, should develop a cohesive school plan.</p>	<p>Good progress</p> <p>The principal and deputy principal have worked well together to produce a draft school plan. This includes policies with review dates and a school improvement plan. The board, teachers and parents have contributed to a SCOT (Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities and Threats) analysis on the needs of the school. These inputs from the school community have helped inform the draft school plan. This plan has been presented to the board but teachers have not yet had an opportunity to review it. Senior management should share the school plan with teachers to enable them to contribute and take ownership of the plan.</p>
<p>Trustees, the board of management and senior management need to work together effectively to strengthen professional relationships and communication processes in the school.</p>	<p>Partial progress</p> <p>Steps have been taken to start strengthening relationships and the communication processes within the school. An external facilitator has been employed and a staff advisory group has been established. While these are positive developments, feedback from interviews with members of the school community revealed that they see this as an on-going process that will need the continued engagement of all parties. The trustees and board should take an active role in overseeing this process in order to ensure a successful outcome.</p>

<p>Senior management should develop strategies to improve organisational systems within the school, to include planning processes and timetabling.</p>	<p>Good progress</p> <p>The principal and deputy principal have developed a clear action plan to address issues identified in the WSE-MLL report and in the school's SCOT analysis. This action plan identifies targets, the strategic action needed, those responsible and success criteria. The action plan has yet to be shared with teachers. Senior management should implement the action plan in collaboration with teachers and monitor and record progress achieved. It is praiseworthy that there have been some improvements in timetabling. As the senior management team is changing, with the appointment of a new deputy principal, the new senior management team should avail of professional supports in order to continue progressing organisational systems within the school.</p>
<p>Planning and implementation of Transition Year (TY) and Guidance require further development by management and staff.</p>	<p>Good progress</p> <p>A new coordinator has been appointed for TY and the programme has been restructured. Feedback from interviews with staff has been very positive regarding the new TY programme. It is good that there have been some changes implemented in Guidance to date.</p>
<p>Summary of findings</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good progress has been made in three of the recommendations and partial progress has been made in one. • The process of strengthening professional relationships and communications has started but needs to be further progressed. 	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trustees and the board of management should take an active role in overseeing the strategies put in place to strengthen professional relationships and the communication processes in order to ensure a successful outcome. • Senior management should share the school plan and the strategic action plan with teachers to enable them to contribute more fully to the plan and to take an active part in school improvement. • The new senior management team should avail of professional supports in order to continue progressing organisational systems within the school. 	

The board of management was given an opportunity to comment in writing on the findings and recommendations of the report; a response was not received from the board.