

**An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna**  
**Department of Education and Skills**

**Follow-Through Inspection**

**REPORT**

<b>Ainm na scoile/ School name</b>	St. Kevin's Community College
<b>Seoladh na scoile/ School address</b>	Fonthill Road Clondalkin Dublin 22
<b>Uimhir rolla / Roll number</b>	70042L

**Date of Evaluation: 09-05-2019**



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agus Scileanna  
Department of  
Education and Skills

## **FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTION**

Follow-through inspections evaluate the progress a school has made on implementing main recommendations made in an earlier inspection rather than the overall educational provision that the school makes. Inspectors also advise the school on strategies and actions to enable them to fully address recommendations.

### **HOW TO READ THIS REPORT**

During this inspection, the inspector evaluated the progress the school has made in implementing recommendations made in an earlier inspection under the following headings:

1. Progress achieved to date
2. Findings
3. Recommendations

Inspectors describe the quality of the progress made in each of these areas using the Inspectorate's follow-through quality continuum which is shown on the final page of this report. The follow-through quality continuum explains the terms used by inspectors when evaluating the school's progress in implementing recommendations.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

During the inspection visit, the following checks in relation to the school's child protection procedures were conducted:

1. The name of the DLP and the Child Safeguarding Statement are prominently displayed near the main entrance to the school.
2. The Child Safeguarding Statement has been ratified by the board and includes an annual review and a risk assessment.
3. All teachers visited reported that they have read the Child Safeguarding Statement and that they are aware of their responsibilities as mandated persons.

The school met the requirements in relation to each of the checks above.

ORIGINAL INSPECTION DETAILS	FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTION DETAILS
<p>Type: WSE-MLL</p> <p>Date of Inspection: 10-05-2017</p> <p>Report Published? Yes</p>	<p>Date of Inspection: 09-05-2019</p>
<b>Follow-through inspection activities</b>	
<p>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with principal and senior management team</li> <li>• Meeting with members of in-school management team</li> <li>• Meeting with relevant teachers and members of staff</li> <li>• Review of school documentation and records and students' work</li> <li>• Review of resources and facilities</li> <li>• Observation of teaching and learning</li> <li>• Interaction with students</li> </ul>	
Recommendation in original inspection report	Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation
<p>The board in conjunction with the Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board needs to take greater oversight of key issues in the school to ensure improvements in timetabling, deployment of staff, curriculum provision and use of resources.</p>	<p><b>Very good progress</b></p> <p>A review of the minutes of board meetings show that the board has taken greater oversight of key issues in the school. The principal has ensured that very good improvements in timetabling have been made. Students now have a morning break and there are no triple periods in subjects. There is much better distribution of subjects across the week. The majority of staff are deployed to teach their subject specialisms. The use of resources is much improved and it is particularly noteworthy that students are in mixed-ability classes.</p>
<p>The board should take greater oversight of all aspects of DEIS action planning for improvement, ensure that this is recorded accurately in minutes of meetings and ratify the DEIS action plan.</p>	<p><b>Good progress</b></p> <p>The board has taken much greater oversight of the DEIS action planning process. A very dedicated core DEIS team is working hard to plan for improvement and has availed of sustained support from the Professional Development Service for Teachers in relation to DEIS action planning. However the board must now ensure that all teachers adopt a whole-school approach to DEIS planning and commit to implementing effective teaching and learning strategies as part of the DEIS plan.</p>

<p>The board should ensure that 28 hours minimum instruction time is provided to students and that the key driver in the timetabling process is an emphasis on optimising student attainment.</p>	<p><b>Very good progress</b></p> <p>The newly appointed principal oversaw the restructuring of the timetable and 28 hours instruction is now provided to students. There are very good improvements in timetabling. However a number of restrictions are still evident in the timetable. In order to sustain the improvements, the board in collaboration with staff should now ensure that a job sharing policy is developed in line with the recommendations in the WSE-MLL report.</p>
<p>Teachers should work together to raise student expectations, set specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound (SMART) targets for uptake and attainment and implement the most effective teaching methods to ensure the targets are met.</p>	<p><b>Partial progress</b></p> <p>Teacher collaboration has improved and good engagement in Subject, Learning and Assessment Review meetings was reported. To build on this good collaboration teachers need to set SMART targets for uptake and attainment in both junior and senior cycle. In the context of DEIS planning, the board and principal need to support staff in setting targets.</p>
<p>Teachers should ensure greater consistency in relation to the quality and quantity of homework assigned and should give students more regular written formative feedback on their work.</p>	<p><b>No progress</b></p> <p>While it is evident that a number of teachers give homework and provide good quality feedback to students, a consistent approach is still required. Overall, a culture of higher expectations needs to be developed and policies around homework in junior and senior cycles need to be agreed and implemented.</p>
<p><b>Summary of findings</b></p>	
<p>In the short time that the new management team has been in place, a number of very positive changes are evident. These include an operating canteen providing breakfast and lunch, effective changes in the structure of the school day and good improvements in DEIS planning.</p> <p>The senior management team is committed to continuing to develop the school. The board has taken greater oversight of the DEIS action planning process.</p> <p>A very dedicated core DEIS team is working hard to plan for improvement in outcomes and teacher collaboration has improved.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targets need to be set at subject department level and a consistent approach to teaching, learning and assessment needs to be underpinned by a culture of high expectations for learners.</li> <li>• In order to progress DEIS action planning and to ensure optimal outcomes for learners, a whole-school focus on teaching, learning and assessment needs to be implemented.</li> </ul>	

<b>THE QUALITY CONTINUUM FOR FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTIONS</b>
<i>Very good progress</i> indicates that appropriate action has been taken to address the recommendation, and that the action has fully achieved or will achieve the required outcome.
<i>Good progress</i> indicates that appropriate action has been taken to address the recommendation, and that substantial improvement has occurred, although further progress is necessary.
<i>Partial progress</i> indicates that some appropriate action has been taken to address the recommendation, and some improvement has occurred, but considerable further progress is necessary.
<i>No progress</i> indicates that no action has been taken, and that the original recommendation remains to be addressed.

# **Appendix**

**SCHOOL RESPONSE TO THE REPORT**

**Submitted by the Board of Management**

## **Area 1 Observations on the content of the inspection report**

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## **Area 2 Follow-up actions planned or undertaken since the completion of the inspection activity to implement the findings and recommendations of the inspection.**

The Board of Management of St. Kevin's C.C. welcomes the report of the Follow-through Inspection. The Board of Management acknowledges that St. Kevin's Community College met with the requirements in relation to the Child Protection Check carried out during the Inspection.

The Board acknowledges the good and very good progress noted by the Inspectorate with regard to the oversight by the Board of Management in relation to key issues within the school. We will continue to work with the management to ensure that very good progress recorded continues into the future.

There has been tremendous progress made by the school management, Board and staff and hence the Board is disappointed with the partial and no progress comments made. It is noted by the Board that the report states that some teachers are giving homework and formative feedback. This is an area that the Board will discuss with management throughout the remainder of this academic year and monitor through its inclusion in the agenda for meetings.