

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection

REPORT

Ainm na scoile/ School name	Community School
Seoladh na scoile/ School address	Castlecomer Co Kilkenny
Uimhir rolla / Roll number	91360T

Date of Evaluation: 24-01-2017



Follow-Through Inspection

ORIGINAL INSPECTION DETAILS	FOLLOW THROUGH INSPECTION DETAILS
Type: Subject Inspection Date of Inspection: 21-01-2014 Report Published? Yes	Date of Inspection: 24-01-2017
Follow-through inspection activities	
<p>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with senior management team • Interview with subject co-ordinator and relevant teachers • Review of school documentation and records and students' work • Observation of teaching and learning • Interaction with students 	
Recommendation in original inspection report	Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation
Strategies and approaches should be developed to engage all students more actively in some lessons.	Good progress Students were appropriately engaged in lessons and there was a good level of student activity overall. The assessment tasks set by teachers were successfully completed by the majority of students. Teaching approaches that worked well included demonstration, pair work, peer assessment and questioning strategies.
Subject planning, schemes of work and Transition Year (TY) planning require further development and review.	Partial progress The overall science plan and schemes of work have not been updated since the subject inspection. This should be addressed. The physics plan and scheme of work have been reviewed and updated. Further development will be required. The TY plan has been updated to include marking criteria for student presentations. This is good practice. Science planning is currently focused on the new specification introduced into first year as part of the Junior Cycle Framework. Resources and teaching materials are written up and shared electronically. This is good since it encourages collaborative practice. Senior management supports teacher collaborative practices through focused whole-school initiatives.
AfL strategies should be more fully integrated into students' learning experiences; in particular, the practice of providing formative written feedback to students should be expanded	Partial progress Teachers provide useful written feedback for students and parents in the student journals following class tests. This is good practice. In general, there was limited evidence of formative written feedback on students' written work. This should be addressed. There was some

	evidence of formative written feedback for physics students on their practical records. However, many identified corrections were not completed by students and this should be addressed.
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Summary of findings

- Students were appropriately engaged in lessons and there was a good level of student activity overall.
- The physics plan and scheme of work have been reviewed and updated, though further development will be required.
- Science planning is currently focused on the new specification introduced into first year as part of the Junior Cycle Framework.
- Resources and teaching materials are written up and shared electronically.
- The overall science plan and schemes of work have not been updated since the subject inspection.
- Teachers provided useful written feedback for students and parents in the student journals following class tests. In general, there was limited evidence of formative written feedback on students' written work.

Recommendations

- The overall science plan and schemes of work should be updated as outlined in the subject inspection report. The current teacher collaborative development for first-year science could form the basis for this.
- Teachers should give students regular formative feedback on their written work. This practice should be monitored so that it leads to improvement in student learning. Many identified corrections were not completed by physics students and this should be addressed.

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.