

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

**Follow-Through Inspection**  
**REPORT**

**St. Colmcille's Boys' National School,**  
**Kells, County Meath.**  
**Uimhir rolla: 16722E**

**Date of inspection: 25 September 2014**



|  |                       |  |     |                              |                          |
|--|-----------------------|--|-----|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Date of publication/issue of original report</b>  | <b>7 October 2011</b> | <b>Type of original report</b>   | WSE | <b>Date of FT inspection</b> | <b>25 September 2014</b> |
| <b>Follow-through inspection activities</b>  |                       |  |     |                              |                          |
| <p><i>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with principal</li> <li>• Meeting with relevant teachers</li> <li>• Observation of teaching and learning</li> <li>• Interaction with pupils</li> <li>• Review of school documentation and records and pupils'/students' work</li> <li>• Review of resources and facilities</li> </ul> |                       |  |     |                              |                          |
| <b>Recommendation in original inspection report</b>  |                       | <b>Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation</b>   |     |                              |                          |
| <p>Chun barr feabhais a bhaint amach i dtorthaí foghlama na ndaltaí i nGaeilge moltar d'fhoireann na scoile forbairt ó rang go rang a chinntiú agus ábhar léitheoireachta a dhifreálú in oiriúint do chumas na ndaltaí. <i>(To further improve pupils' learning outcomes in Irish staff is advised to ensure progression from class to class and to differentiate reading material in accordance with pupils' abilities)</i></p>         |                       | <p><b>Dul chun cinn maith/Good Progress</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tá dul chun cinn maith déanta sa scoil chun teanga na ndaltaí a fhorbairt sa Ghaeilge.</li> <li>• Déanann na hoidí iarracht mhacánta an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn agus úsáidtear straitéisí foghlama gníomhacha chun ceachtanna a mhúineadh.</li> <li>• Cuirtear béim oiriúnach ar fhorbairt teanga ó rang go rang agus tá athbhreithniú tosnaíthe ar an bplean scoile.</li> <li>• Tá dul chun cinn í bpáirt déanta sa scoil chun ábhar léitheoireachta a dhifreálú in oiriúint do chumas na ndaltaí.</li> <li>• Mar chuid de chlár phiólótach sa scoil baintear úsáid as leabhair leabharlainne shimplí chun ábhar léitheoireachta a dhifreálú do dhaltaí.</li> <li>• <i>The school has made good progress in developing pupils' language skills in Irish.</i></li> <li>• <i>The teachers make a sincere effort to promote the Irish language and active learning approaches are used to teach lessons.</i></li> <li>• <i>Appropriate emphasis is placed on developing language from class to class and review of the school plan has begun.</i></li> <li>• <i>Partial progress has been made in the school to differentiate reading material in accordance with pupils' abilities.</i></li> <li>• <i>As part of a pilot programme, some classrooms make use of simple library books to differentiate reading for pupils.</i></li> </ul> |     |                              |                          |
| <p>More extensive use of the monthly reports is recommended to further enhance the school self-review process and to support the implementation of a spiral curriculum.</p>  |                       | <p><b>Very Good Progress</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school has made very good progress in reviewing and extending the format and usefulness of the monthly progress records.</li> <li>• The monthly progress record is used to track the implementation of the curriculum and to enhance the school planning and review process.</li> <li>• The staff has undertaken an extensive trial of various formats for monthly progress records, including mindmaps, to assist the school in recording the implementation of the spiral curriculum.</li> <li>• The current format of the monthly progress records is still being refined. The staff reported that the current version of the record enables good tracking and supports their self-review process.</li> </ul>   |     |                              |                          |
| <b>Summary of findings</b>   |                       |  |     |                              |                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tá dul chun cinn maith déanta sa scoil chun forbairt na Gaeilge ó rang go rang a chinntiú agus chun barr feabhais a bhaint amach i dtorthaí foghlama na ndaltaí i nGaeilge. Tá dul chun cinn i bpáirt déanta sa scoil</li> </ul>  |                       |  |     |                              |                          |

chun ábhar léitheoireachta a dhifreálú le cur in oiriúint do chumais éagsúla na ndaltaí. (The school has made good progress in ensuring progression in Irish from class to class and in improving pupils' learning outcomes in Irish. Partial progress has been made in the school to differentiate reading materials in accordance with pupils' abilities.)

- The school has made very good progress in reviewing and extending the format and usefulness of the monthly progress records to further enhance the school self-review process and to support the implementation of a spiral curriculum.
- The school has implemented other recommendations in the whole school evaluation report, including mathematic initiatives for more able pupils and the systematic teaching of a broader visual arts vocabulary.

### **Recommendations**

- Chun forbairt ó rang go rang a chinntiú agus chun cur leis an dul chun cinn b'fhiú ionchur nua teanga i gcomhthéacs na ndeich dtéamaí a roghnú do gach rang sa phlean Gaeilge. (To ensure progression from class to class and to add to the progress made, the school is advised to develop the whole school plan for Irish by identifying specific language inputs across the ten themes for each class level).
- Moltar úsáid a bhaint as leabhair leabharlainne agus úrscéalta Gaeilge chun ábhar léitheoireachta a dhifreálú le cur in oiriúint do chumas na ndaltaí. (It is recommended that more use be made of library books and novels to differentiate reading material in accordance with pupils' abilities)
- To build upon the very good progress made in the development and use of monthly progress records, consideration should be given to including a section for teacher reflection, to further enhance school self-review.

The board of management of the school was given an opportunity to comment on the findings and recommendations of the report; the board chose to accept the report without response.