

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

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

**Kilbrien NS**  
**Ballinamult, County Waterford**  
**Uimhir rolla: 17643N**

**Date of inspection: 10 October 2014**



<b>Date of publication/issue of original report</b>	<b>September 2012</b>	<b>Type of original report</b>	<b>WSE</b>	<b>Date of FT inspection</b>	<b>10 October 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' 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>Curricular plans should be reviewed to ensure that there is a greater focus on the intended learning outcomes for pupils. Specific targets for improvement should be developed to address school priorities in literacy and numeracy.</p>		<p><b>Good progress</b></p> <p>There has been some limited review of curricular plans, and aspects of practice in some subject areas has been discussed and reviewed. Progress in school self-evaluation (SSE) will guide review in other curricular areas. Targets for improvement have been developed for the progression of aspects of literacy and numeracy as part of the school's work in school self-evaluation.</p>			
<p>Sa Ghaeilge, moltar a thuilleadh deiseanna cainte a chruthú do na daltaí, scileanna léitheoireachta a mhúineadh go córasach agus an scríbhneoireacht phearsanta a fhorbairt a thuilleadh. <i>In Irish, it is advised that extra speaking opportunities are created for the pupils, reading skills are taught systematically and personal writing is developed further.</i></p>		<p><b>Partial progress</b></p> <p>Cruthaítear deiseanna cainte breise do na daltaí i rith na ceachtanna Gaeilge. Tá a gcumas labhartha tar éis feabhsú dá bharr. Tá siad muiníneach i mbun ceisteanna a fhreagairt agus tá siad sásta páirt a ghlacadh in obair bheirte. Cuireann na múinteoirí béim ar úsáid na Gaeilge neamhfhoirmiúil i rith an lae. Ce go léann na daltaí go rialta, níl plean deartha chun scileanna léitheoireachta a fhorbairt agus níl na focail coitianta agus foghraíocht na Gaeilge á mhúineadh go córasach. Léann na daltaí ón téacsleabhar don chuid is mó. Scríobhann siad go rialta. <i>During Irish lessons, additional speaking opportunities are created for the pupils. As a consequence, their ability to express themselves has improved. They are confident in answering questions and are happy to partake in pair work. The teachers emphasise the use of informal Irish during the day. Although the pupils read regularly, no plan has been devised for the development of reading skills and common words and phonics are not being taught systematically. The pupils read mainly from the textbook. They write regularly.</i></p>			
<p>The current practice regarding the teaching of Drama should be reviewed to ensure that the aims and objectives of the drama curriculum are fully addressed in an integrated manner and that pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum.</p>		<p><b>Partial progress</b></p> <p>The practice in relation to the teaching of Drama has been reviewed. The class teachers take responsibility for covering a proportion of the drama curriculum through discrete lessons and integration with other subjects, especially in preparation for a drama performance at Christmas. An external drama tutor continues to be employed by the board of management to teach drama for one hour weekly in each class. There are no classroom plans provided to or by the external drama tutor to document the proportion of the drama curriculum being implemented.</p>			

## Summary of findings

There has been good progress made in respect of the development of targets for improvement in the areas of literacy and numeracy. In Irish, good progress has been made in providing additional speaking opportunities for pupils and the teachers place due emphasis on developing the pupils' ability to express themselves. The pupils are beginning to gain in confidence but there is still need to develop their vocabulary and fluency. There is also scope for development in the teaching of specific reading skills in Irish, including the use of stories and real books. Partial progress has been made in addressing practice in Drama.

## Recommendations

- SSE targets should continue to be very specific in nature and based on evidence gathered.
- In Irish, the pupils should be provided with further speaking opportunities and extra emphasis should be placed on the functional use of the language. Additional use should be made of stories and real books for reading practice, and skills such as phonics and sight word development should be progressed in a systematic manner.
- The provision of external tuition in Drama should be reviewed to ensure that appropriate classroom planning is provided for the implementation of the drama curriculum and that suitable monthly progress records of pupil attainment in Drama are maintained.

The board of management was given an opportunity to comment in writing on the findings and recommendations of the report, and the response of the board will be found in the appendix of this report.

## **Appendix**

**School response to the report**

**Submitted by the Board of Management**

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

**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 acknowledges the recommendations of the Follow-Up Inspection. The provision of external tuition in Drama is being reviewed by the Board of Management and it is expected that the recommendations will be implemented. The teaching staff will place great emphasis on the importance of oral Irish and will also explore the use of stories and real books for reading practice.