

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection
REPORT

Our Lady of Victories Infant School,
Ballymun Road, Dublin 9
Uimhir rolla: 19242F

Date of inspection: 23 May 2014



Date of publication of original report	15 December 2011	Type of original report	WSE	Date of FT inspection	23 May 2014
Follow-through inspection activities					
<p><i>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with principal • Review of school documentation and records • Review of school policies • Review of monthly progress records. 					
Recommendation in original inspection report			Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation		
<p>It is recommended that the school should review its system of teacher allocation. Currently, pupils are assigned to the same teacher for their three years in the school. It is recommended that a system which exposes pupils to the teaching styles and expertise of more than one teacher should be considered.</p>			<p>Very good progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very good progress has been made by the school in reviewing its system of teacher allocation. - A class allocation policy has been established and ratified by the board of management. - Consideration is given to affording pupils the experience of a wide variety of teaching styles and expertise. - The specific needs of particular classes and individual pupils are considered in the allocation of teachers. - A record of class allocation from year to year is kept by the principal for reference purposes. 		
<p>It is recommended that the structure of the monthly progress record be reviewed to provide a simpler, more succinct account of the work completed in classes.</p>			<p>Good progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The school has made good progress in reviewing the structure of the monthly progress record. - All teachers maintain a detailed progress report which records teaching and learning in all subjects. - The progress record also outlines the work covered under the various strands of the curriculum. This permits teachers to keep track of the learning undertaken and to ensure that all strands of the curriculum are taught in a particular year. - Examination of the monthly progress records indicates that teachers have addressed other recommendations in the whole school evaluation including the use of mathematics' trails and the inclusion of a range of poems and songs in Irish for each class level. 		
Summary of findings					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good progress has been made in reviewing the class allocation policy thus affording pupils opportunities to experience a wider variety of teaching styles and expertise. There is scope to include staff rotation in the special education settings in the policy. • The school has made good progress in reviewing the structure of the monthly progress record. The current format is simpler and more succinct though there is still some scope for development. 					
Recommendations					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rotation of teachers in special educational needs settings should be included in the class allocation policy. • In the further development of the monthly progress records teachers should include some reference to differentiated learning in the classroom and to their use of assessment strategies. There is also scope for improvement in the recording of learning and skill development in Social Environmental and Scientific Education subjects. • In extending the use of the monthly progress records teachers are advised to consider the purpose of these records. The staff should examine opportunities for sharing progress records and using them to inform long-term planning for the next school year. • Consideration should also be given to examining how the monthly progress records could further assist the school in tracking progress in all aspects of teaching and learning and especially the school improvement plan. 					

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

The Board of Management and staff of Our Lady of Victories Infant School welcome the positive report issued as a result of the Follow-Through Inspection on 23rd May 2014. The report acknowledges the progress made on the implementation of recommendations following a WSE carried out in the school in February 2011.

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

With respect to the new recommendations

- We have amended the class allocation policy to include staff rotation in special education settings
- We will develop the monthly progress record to include the new recommendations