An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna

Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection
REPORT

St Cronan’s Senior NS
Brackenstown, Swords, Co. Dublin
Uimhir rolla: 19535U

Date of inspection: 3 June 2014
Date of publication report: 22 January 2013
Type of original report: WSE
Date of FT inspection: 03 June 2014

Follow-through inspection activities

- Meeting with principal
- Meeting with members of the in-school management team
- Meeting with relevant teachers
- Observation of teaching and learning
- Interaction with pupils
- Review of school documentation and records and pupils’ work
- Review of resources and facilities

Recommendation in original inspection report

To complement a number of recent valuable initiatives in the field of literacy, it is recommended that greater emphasis be placed on the differentiation of reading material.

Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation

- Very good progress has been made in addressing this recommendation.
- The school has reviewed the scope and content of pupils’ reading material. Significant investments have been made in additional reading material, library books and information and communication technology (ICT). Other professionals have been consulted and school staff has been surveyed to ascertain suitability and practicality of employing various differentiated reading approaches. Collaborative approaches to planning now involve a close examination of differentiation.
- A number of teachers have undertaken continuous professional development (CPD) courses in the field of literacy. The sharing of such knowledge and the various expertise's of staff is directed at the continuous development of approaches to literacy, specifically with regard to differentiation.
- A number of approaches are now in place to offer differentiated reading material to pupils and to support and complement recent initiatives which include in-class support, power hours, station teaching, ICT interventions and the use of graded reading material.
- Parental support has been elicited through a new paired-reading programme. Provision is being regularly reviewed at staff meetings and as part of the school self-evaluation (SSE) process.

It is recommended that the current in-class support paradigms be further developed and extended.

To further develop their language competencies in Irish,

- Very good progress has been made in relation to this recommendation.
- In-class support is now delivered in all classrooms in both the fields of numeracy and literacy. On occasion, provision is also extended to other curricular areas such as Science and Social, Personal and Health Education. Initiatives to complement in-class support rubrics such as precision teaching, cooperative learning, reading clubs, mathematics' groupings and station teaching are in place.
- Provision is being regularly reviewed at staff meetings and as part of the SSE process.

Chun cur lena gcumas cainte i nGaeilge, ní mór níos mó béime a chur ar ábhar teanga níos dúshlánaí agus níos céimnithe. To further develop their language competencies in Irish,

- Tá dul chun cinn an-mhaith á dheanamh maidir leis an moladh seo.
- Faightear tacáiscoth ón mbord bainistíochta chun na hacomhainní a fhóirfaí ar thaileadh agus chun freastal ar chúrsaí Gaeilge. D’fhreastal oide ar chursaí éagsúla. Cuirtear béim chu i ar chomhroinnt eolais agus acmhainní.
greater emphasis should be placed on language content which is more challenging and developmental.

- Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar an bplean scoile don Ghaeilge. Tá forbairt leanúnach á dhéanamh ar eisemhairí teanga i gcomhthíacs théamaí an churaclaim. Cuirtear béim thorthúil ar obair chomhoibriútheach. Tá na hoidí ag forbairt eisemhairí, foclóir agus acmhainní an t-am ar fad.
- Léiríonn obair na ndaltaí go bhfuil raon topaicí agus téamaí leathan agus spreagthach ar fáil dóibh.
- Cuirtear béim inmholut ar úsáid acmhainní cosúil l e teicneolaíocht na faisnéise agus na cumarsáide agus ar mhodhanna múinte cosúil le drámaíocht.
- Cuirtear cúrsaí Gaeilge ar fáil do thuismitheoirí.
- Very good progress has been made in relation to this recommendation.
- Board of management support to further develop resources and to attend various courses has been received. Teachers have attended various courses. Appropriate emphasis is placed on the sharing of knowledge and resources.
- The school plan for Irish has been reviewed. Language exemplars are being continuously developed in the context of the curriculum themes. Fruitful emphasis is placed on collaborative work. Teachers are continuously developing language exemplars, vocabulary and resources.
- Pupils’ work indicates that they are provided with a range of themes and topics which are broad and stimulating.
- Commendable emphasis is placed on the use of resources such as information and communication technology and on teaching methodologies such as drama.
- Courses in Irish have been provided for parents.

Summary of findings

The school has addressed the recommendations in a strategic, collaborative and focused manner. In so doing, initiatives and interventions are practical and well-thought out.

Recommendations

No further recommendations arise in relation to the recommendations in the original WSE report.

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.

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