

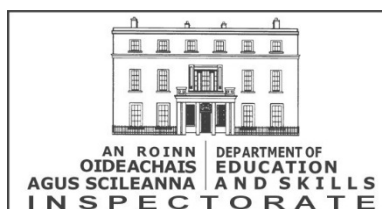
An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection
REPORT

NENAGH VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
NENAGH, COUNTY TIPPERARY

Roll Number: 72440K

Date of inspection: 24 November 2014



Date of publication of original report	3 December 2012	Type of original report	<i>Subject Inspection of Irish</i>	Date of FT inspection	24 November 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"> • <i>Meeting with the principal</i> • <i>Meeting with the teachers</i> • <i>Review of school documents and records</i> • <i>Review of resources and facilities</i> 					
Recommendation in original inspection report		Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation			
It would be very worthwhile for the department to discuss teaching and learning methodologies to share good practice.		<p>Good progress</p> <p>The Department meets informally on a regular basis to share methodologies. Some discussion took place on teaching and learning at the department's formal planning meetings as part of collaborative work carried out on curricular plans. The dialogue on teaching and learning needs to be continued as well as the sharing of some methodologies.</p>			
The development of target language use and practices for assessing students' work is recommended.		<p>Good progress</p> <p>Good progress has been made regarding the use of the target language, especially in the junior class groups. It is the department's objective, through time, that all the students will become accustomed to the increased use of the language in Irish classes.</p> <p>Partial progress</p> <p>More work remains to be carried out regarding developing assessment strategies. This area has been identified by the department in its action plan for 2014-2015.</p>			
It is recommended that daily inputs for the teaching and learning of the language become common practice in the school and that continuity in the Irish teaching staff during cycles for the coming years should be maintained.		<p>Very good progress</p> <p>Daily periods for teaching and learning of Irish have been made available as the norm. There is now a core staff of Irish teachers in the school and teachers are time-tabled to ensure continuity for the pupils from year to year and cycle to cycle.</p>			
It is recommended that more extensive use be made of the integrated thematic approach in all of the curricular plans, and that the collaborative development action plan should be drawn up collaboratively by members of the department.		<p>Very good progress</p> <p>Very good progress has been made in the majority of the curricular plans and this planning work will commence in the Leaving Certificate plans this year. Changes have been made to the textbooks which are in use in both cycles with text books that have been chosen which are laid out according to topics.</p> <p>Very good progress</p> <p>The department has implemented an action plan for improvement since the time of the original inspection.</p>			
Summary of Findings					
<p>Very good or good progress has been made in implementing the majority of the main recommendations made in the original inspection. The most significant progress has been made in the provision for the subject and it is a priority of management to maintain this provision and support for the teaching and learning of Irish in the years ahead. Since 2012, the core group of Irish teachers have made substantial achievements, especially in the Irish language action plan and in the very good work that has been carried out in the majority of the curriculum plans, based on the integrated, thematic approach for language teaching and learning.</p>					
Recommendations					
<p>The sharing of good teaching and learning practices amongst staff members is still an area for improvement. The department also needs to increase the number of assessment instruments it employs for all year groups.</p>					

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.

Published June 2015