

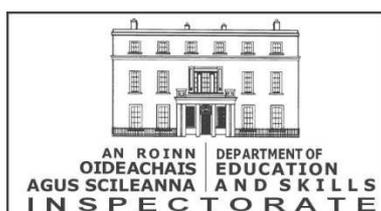
An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna

Department of Education and Skills

**Follow-Through Inspection
REPORT**

**Meánscoil Muire gan Smál
Convent of Mercy, Roscommon Town
Roll Number: 65090S**

Date of inspection: 6 October 2014



Date of publication/issue of original report	27 October 2011	Type of original report	Subject Inspection of Mathematics	Date of FT inspection	6 October 2014
Follow-through inspection activities					
<p><i>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection</i></p> <p>Meeting with senior management team Meeting with relevant teachers Observation of teaching and learning Interaction with students Review of school documentation and records and students' work Review of resources and facilities</p>					
Recommendation in original inspection report		Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation			
<p>The good practice in relation to lesson preparation and delivery which created a clear context for the material being covered and minimised the use of the textbook in lesson delivery should be universally adopted across the department.</p>		<p>Very good progress Lessons were very well prepared and teachers had sourced a variety of resources in advance of lessons to support the learning objectives. Resources used included activity sheets, props, information and communication technology (ICT) presentations, animations and the judicious use of textbook content. The integration of these resources into lessons was seamless in all cases and as a result students' level of engagement was high in all lessons.</p>			
<p>The number of class periods allocated to Mathematics in first year should be increased at the earliest opportunity.</p>		<p>Very Good progress First-year classes have been allocated an extra period of Mathematics per week and now have daily contact with the subject. There is very generous time allocation to Mathematics in general in the school, particularly for senior cycle classes. In order to comply fully with Circular 0058/2011 and Circular 0025/2012, continued efforts should be made by management to ensure that the distribution of periods throughout the week facilitates daily contact with Mathematics for third, fifth and sixth year students.</p>			
<p>The department's ongoing continuing professional development should continue to focus on resource integration and the use of ICT in teaching and learning and should also include modules on assessment for learning (AfL)</p>		<p>Very good progress All teachers have engaged positively with the workshops provided as part of the national roll out of <i>Project Maths</i>. Individualised ICT training has been organised in conjunction with the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) and ICT integration was observed to be effective in all lessons. All staff have also undertaken a module in AfL. The use of supplementary resources in lessons is now a key strength of the mathematics department and a variety of resources are stored in a central repository. Future development of this significant resource should include the cataloguing of content, perhaps in an online forum, and the inclusion of commentary on the effectiveness of existing and new resources as they are added.</p>			
Summary of findings					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers of Mathematics have engaged very well with the recommendations in the previous mathematics inspection report and have universally adopted teaching approaches espoused by <i>Project Maths</i>. The integration of supplementary resources that aid in the achievement of lesson objectives is a key strength of the members of the mathematics department. Management has facilitated an extra period of Mathematics per week for first-year classes. All teachers have availed of continuing professional development (CPD) in the areas of ICT and AfL and it was evident in the lessons observed that this engagement with CPD is having a positive impact on student learning. 					
Recommendations					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued efforts should be made by management to ensure that daily contact with Mathematics for all students is facilitated. Future development in subject planning should include the cataloguing of the significant bank of resources that has been developed by the mathematics team. 					

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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