An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna

Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection REPORT

Loreto Secondary School
Letterkenny, County Donegal
Roll Number: 62840U

Date of inspection: 27 May 2016

AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS AGUS SCILEANNA | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS
INSPECTORATE

Date of original inspection[1]	25 Sept 2014	Type of original report	WSE-MLL	Date of FT inspection	27 May 2016
Report published	Yes				

Follow-through inspection activities

The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection
Meeting with principal
Meeting with relevant teachers
Review of school documentation

Recommendation in original inspection report	Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation
In light of emerging challenges in the area of curriculum reform and changing student needs, it is recommended that the board identify some long-term strategic priorities, and plan for how these can be achieved.	**Very Good Progress** The opportunity was taken at the introduction of a new board of management in 2015 to identify significant developments and initiatives completed by the previous board and to set out some strategic priorities for the new board. The major priorities to be addressed include the implementation of the new Junior Cycle Framework, the continued implementation of the school's literacy and numeracy strategies, and maintaining the high level of staff motivation. Some infrastructural issues are also identified as requiring attention. All of these priorities are being addressed on an ongoing basis by the board.
In order to build on the good work already completed, it is recommended that management and staff continue to develop strategies for capturing, developing and sharing good classroom practice.	**Very Good Progress** Since the completion of the WSE-MLL, the staff has continued to implement and embed the learning achieved through their engagement with the Forbairt – Action Learning Network project on the impact of feedback on student engagement and learning. A one-day workshop with an external expert was organised in October 2014. The results of the pilot project, which involved a core team of seven teachers, were presented at a whole-staff meeting in December 2014 and all staff are now encouraged to use the feedback strategies that were found to be most effective. Subject departments are expected to play a key role in disseminating such good practice. The school has continued to review and develop its school self-evaluation (SSE) initiatives. School improvement plans are in place for literacy and numeracy, and peer collaborative practice has been chosen as a third theme for development. Very good experience in collaborative practices has already been developed through the school's involvement in the Droichead model of induction for newly qualified teachers.

Summary of findings

Very good progress is being made by the school with respect to the recommendations in the WSE-MLL report. The school continues to focus on maintaining a high quality of educational provision.

Recommendations

No further recommendations arise in relation to the original recommendations in the WSE-MLL 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.

Published September 2016

[1] Date on cover of original inspection report