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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
Promoting Improvement*



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

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Department of Education  
Department for Employment and Learning  
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure

## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of a Follow-up Inspection**

**Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain  
Belfast**

**May 2010**

Chairperson of the Board of Governors  
Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain  
10A Lancaster Street  
BELFAST  
BT15 1EZ

25 May 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

The Education and Training Inspectorate conducted a follow-up inspection of Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain on 6 May 2010. The reporting inspector, Dr M Barr, has already given you feedback. Attached is a copy of the follow-up inspection report.

The Department will not send copies of this short report to parents, although the school may send out copies if it so wishes, or inform parents that the report is available.

In line with usual practice, the report will be published on the website of the Department of Education after 24 May 2010. Any person who wishes to have a copy of the report may obtain one, on request, from Inspection Services Branch.

Yours sincerely



**ELIZABETH WELLS (MRS)**  
**Inspection Services Branch**

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## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOCUSED INSPECTION OF BUNSCOIL MHIC REACHTAIN, BELFAST, BT15 1EZ (101-6647)**

The focused inspection in May 2008 highlighted strengths in the exemplary behaviour of the children; the very good arrangements for promoting healthy eating and active lifestyles; the quality of the teaching sessions observed during the inspection; the hard-working staff who work well together as a team; the effective links established with a range of external agencies and organisations; and the work of the Principal in promoting the school through the development of effective working relationships with the local community.

The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following areas:

- the need to review, update and communicate the policy documents and guidance materials for pastoral care and child protection in line with the relevant DE circulars;
- the need to develop a more strategic approach to planning for learning and teaching to improve the standards the children achieve, in particular those children with additional learning needs; and
- the need to review and update the School Development Plan to reflect agreed priorities for improvement and the findings of this report.

In the interval since the original inspection, the school has received support from the Inter-board Irish-Medium Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) and the Belfast Education and Library Board CASS team in the following areas:

- the development of a strategic approach to planning for learning and teaching to raise the standards the children achieve; and
- the development of a whole-school plan for learning and teaching in mathematics.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out three interim follow-up visits (IFUVs) and a follow-up inspection on 6 May 2010.

The action plan produced by the school in response to the inspection findings was of a good quality and was adjusted appropriately in light of feedback given by the Inspectorate during the IFUVs.

The following are the most important improvements made:

- the developing culture of self-evaluation leading to improvement;
- the more focused use of data to set targets for improvement;
- the more consistent use of active learning strategies to promote the children's learning in mathematics; and
- the improvement in the standards achieved by all of the children in numeracy.

In the areas inspected the quality of education provided by this school is now satisfactory; the strengths outweigh areas for improvement in the provision. In order to build on its strengths and continue to raise the standards achieved by the children the school needs to continue to strengthen its processes for school development planning as identified in the original report.

The Inspectorate will monitor and report on the school's progress in addressing the remaining area for improvement.

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