

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection

REPORT

Ainm na scoile/ School name	De La Salle College
Seoladh na scoile/ School address	Macroon Co Cork
Uimhir rolla / Roll number	623100

Date of Evaluation: 23-11-2017



WHAT IS A FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTION?

Follow-through inspections evaluate the progress a school has made on implementing main recommendations made in an earlier inspection rather than the overall educational provision that the school makes. Inspectors also advise the school on strategies and actions to enable them to fully address recommendations.

HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

During this inspection, the inspector evaluated the progress the school has made in implementing recommendations made in an earlier inspection under the following headings:

1. Progress achieved to date
2. Findings
3. Recommendations

Inspectors describe the quality of the progress made in each of these areas using the Inspectorate's follow-through quality continuum which is shown on the final page of this report. The follow-through quality continuum explains the terms used by inspectors when evaluating the school's progress in implementing recommendations.

ORIGINAL INSPECTION DETAILS	FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTION DETAILS
<p>Type: WSE-MLL</p> <p>Date of Inspection: 28-01-2016</p> <p>Report Published - Yes</p>	<p>Date of Inspection: 23-11-2017</p>
Follow-through inspection activities	
<p>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with senior management team • Review of school documentation and records and students' work • Observation of teaching and learning • Interaction with students 	
Recommendation in original inspection report	Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education (PE) should be provided for all students, by teachers with appropriate qualifications that are recognised by the teaching council. 	<p>Partial progress</p> <p>The school has employed two qualified PE teachers. While PE is timetabled for all students up to Transition Year (TY), PE is not timetabled for fifth-year and sixth-year students. The school reported that a lack of internal facilities prevented the timetabling of PE for all students.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board should issue an annual report on the operation and performance of the school to stakeholders in line with requirements of the Education Act and the health and safety policy and statement require review and updating annually. 	<p>Good progress</p> <p>Commendably, an annual report is issued to parents. While a detailed report has been received from external health and safety personnel and a draft health and safety policy and statement has been devised, risk assessments in relation to specialist rooms have not been included. This should be rectified. The guidelines for post-primary schools produced by the Department of Education and Skills and the Health and Safety Authority should be useful in this regard.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While some alternative assessment practices take place, the school as a whole should agree and implement an alternative assessment policy for TY that would focus on an appropriate balance between formative and summative assessment. 	<p>Very good progress</p> <p>An appropriate balance between formative and summative assessment is being used in TY. Modes of assessment include continuous assessment which incorporates project work, and presentation skills.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The increased use of structured collaborative learning strategies is recommended. 	<p>Good progress</p> <p>Increased use of collaborative learning strategies was observed during the evaluation. While overall, these were effective in</p>

	<p>enhancing students' learning, practice varied in the lessons observed. In one lesson, advice was given to enhance the purpose and value of such student-centred activities. Advice was also provided in relation to the structuring and length of the activity and the enhancement of student participation.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased formative written commentary should be provided on students' work in order to further enhance students' learning. 	<p>Good progress</p> <p>There was evidence of some provision of formative feedback in the sample of students' copybooks inspected. Strategic use of such formative written commentary should be extended.</p>
<p>Summary of findings</p>	
<p>Overall, the school has made either good or very good progress in implementing most recommendations in the WSE MLL report. There was partial implementation of the recommendation on Physical Education and this requires further attention as a matter of priority. Other aspects that require attention are the finalisation of the health and safety policy, and extension of effective practices relating to the use of collaborative learning strategies and provision of formative written commentary to students.</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education should be provided for all students, including those in fifth year and sixth year. Risk assessments should be carried out and included in the safety statement. The amended health and safety policy should then be ratified by the board. Effective practices relating to the use of collaborative learning strategies and the provision of formative written commentary to students should be extended. 	

The board of management was given an opportunity to comment in writing on the findings and recommendations of the report, and the response of the board will be found in the appendix of this report.

THE QUALITY CONTINUUM FOR FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTIONS
<i>Very good progress</i> indicates that appropriate action has been taken to address the recommendation, and that the action has fully achieved or will achieve the required outcome.
<i>Good progress</i> indicates that appropriate action has been taken to address the recommendation, and that substantial improvement has occurred, although further progress is necessary.
<i>Partial progress</i> indicates that some appropriate action has been taken to address the recommendation, and some improvement has occurred, but considerable further progress is necessary.
<i>No progress</i> indicates that no action has been taken, and that the original recommendation remains to be addressed.

Appendix

SCHOOL RESPONSE TO THE REPORT

Submitted by the Board of Management

Area 1 Observations on the content of the inspection report

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Area 2 Follow-up actions planned or undertaken since the completion of the inspection activity to implement the findings and recommendations of the inspection.

The school will explore all potential options for extending the provision for PE to fifth and sixth years.

A comprehensive risk assessment has been carried out in conjunction with the school's Insurance Company.

The amended health and safety policy has been ratified by the board.

Effective practices in relation to the use of collaborative learning strategies are being further enhanced as part of the school staff evaluation programme.