

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection
REPORT

Coláiste Chraobh Abhann
Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow
Roll number: 76076M

Date of inspection: 27 February 2015



Date of publication/issue of original report	24 October 2013	Type of original report	Physical Education subject inspection	Date of FT inspection	27 February 2015
Follow-through inspection activities					
<p><i>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection</i></p> <p>Meeting with principal Meeting with subject coordinator 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>Additional opportunities for co-operative learning, a greater focus on developing personal movement competency and strategies to provide developmental feedback should be explored and implemented.</p>		<p>Good progress</p> <p>In the lessons observed, some valuable opportunities were provided for students to observe each other completing the assigned skills or tasks, and to provide feedback to improve elements of their subsequent performances. The continued use of such collaborative learning approaches will further capitalise on the power of peer-assisted learning and enhance students' engagement in their lessons.</p> <p>It is evident that the physical education teachers have placed a greater emphasis on developing students' fundamental movement skills as a means of improving their basic movement competency, including agility, balance and co-ordination. Recent teacher engagement in continuing professional development (CPD) has been beneficial in improving programme design and in the use of technology to support students to develop positive physical activity behaviours. The recent introduction and use of tablet technology to record and analyse movement performance is particularly noteworthy. The continued exploration and further development of this tool to provide augmented feedback to support students' learning is recommended.</p> <p>Most students observed were receptive and interested when provided with feedback that helped to improve their posture and biomechanics. The continued use of criteria and feedback that help students develop their movement efficiency should be considered in all lessons. This will help them to understand how the various practical activities of their programme are interrelated and relevant to their physical development and overall well-being.</p>			
<p>A number of rich tasks, linked to specified learning outcomes, should be developed and implemented to further advance the assessment process.</p>		<p>Good progress</p> <p>Planning for the programmes of work has progressed considerably. The physical education department has ensured that the revised schemes of work clearly align intended learning outcomes with specific assessment tasks for each activity module. The remaining challenge for the physical education department is to identify a small number of overarching learning outcomes for each year group and to design one or two assessment tasks that capture students' learning over the course of the year. This will ensure that the assessment process is more manageable and provides students with a meaningful approach to demonstrate improvement in their movement competencies and capacity and to apply their knowledge, understanding and confidence in the physical activity setting. This approach should also help to establish greater coherence between the various activity modules and to the overall physical education programme</p>			

as students' progress through junior cycle and senior cycle.

Summary of findings

- Overall, good progress has been made in addressing the recommendations contained in the original inspection report.
- Engagement in CPD has resulted in improved programme planning and the greater integration of technologies that assist students' learning.
- Teachers place an increased emphasis on developing students' fundamental movement skills.
- Revised schemes of work successfully align specific learning outcomes and assessment tasks.
- Students are provided with opportunities to become a learning resource for each other through the greater use of collaborative learning approaches.

Recommendations

- To bring greater coherence to the physical education programme, the physical education department should identify a small number of overarching learning outcomes and assessment tasks for each year group that capture students' learning and development.

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.

Appendix

School response to the report

Submitted by the Board of Management

Area 1: Observations on the content of the inspection report

The Board of Management at Coláiste Chraobh Abhann is extremely satisfied with the report on the Follow-Through Inspection of PE issued by the Department of Education and Skills Inspectorate as a result of a visit to the school on 27th February 2015.

In particular, the Board acknowledges the very positive comments recorded by the Inspector in relation to the progress achieved to date on the implementation of recommendations made in the original PE Inspection Report which was published on 24th October 2013.

Teachers are very encouraged by the Inspector's findings and enthused by his positive comments on their work to date.

All relevant persons had an opportunity to evaluate and provide feedback on this report to the Chairperson of the Board.

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 has reviewed the single recommendation outlined in the report and the PE teachers involved will work collaboratively to complete the task set by the Inspector.