

**An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna**  
**Department of Education and Skills**

**Follow-Through Inspection**

**REPORT**

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| <b>School name</b>    | St Colman's Community College       |
| <b>School address</b> | Youghal Road<br>Midleton<br>Co Cork |
| <b>Roll number</b>    | 71050P                              |

**Date of Evaluation: 10-12-2018**



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An Roinn Oideachais  
agus Scileanna  
Department of  
Education and Skills

## **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.

The board of management of the school 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.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

During the inspection visit, the following checks in relation to the school's child protection procedures were conducted:

1. The name of the DLP and the Child Safeguarding Statement are prominently displayed near the main entrance to the school.
2. The Child Safeguarding Statement has been ratified by the board and includes an annual review and a risk assessment.
3. All teachers visited reported that they have read the Child Safeguarding Statement and that they are aware of their responsibilities as mandated persons.

The school met the requirements in relation to each of the checks above.

| ORIGINAL INSPECTION DETAILS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  | FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTION DETAILS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
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| Type: WSE-MLL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  | Date of Inspection: 10-12-2018                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| Date of Inspection: 27 April 2016                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| Report Published? Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| 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"><li>• Meeting with principal and senior management team</li><li>• Interview with members of in-school management team or subject co-ordinator</li><li>• Interview with relevant teachers/members of staff</li><li>• Review of school documentation and records and students' work</li><li>• Review of resources and facilities</li><li>• Interaction with students</li></ul> |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| Recommendation in original inspection report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  | Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| The board of management should ensure that there is full compliance with the requirements of Circular M29/95 regarding the minimum weekly time for instruction from September 2016.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  | <b>Very good progress</b><br>The school has been fully compliant with the requirements of Circular M29/95 regarding the minimum weekly time for instruction since September 2016.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| Strategies to strengthen communication and consultation with all members of the school community should be developed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  | <b>Very good progress</b><br>A range of strategies has been put in place to enhance communication with the school community, including consultation with students on policy review, and the development of a project on student voice. A handbook has been prepared for parents, and ongoing communication has been strengthened through the use of the student journal, and through the development of digital technology including the use of shared drives. |  |
| The current student-support structures, including the advisor and class tutor roles, should be revisited while the completion of a whole-school guidance plan should be prioritised, and a weekly meeting time for the student-support team should be put in                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  | <b>Very good progress</b><br>The student-support structures have been fully revised, and new structures have been put in place including a weekly meeting time for the year heads with senior management, and the creation of staff working groups.<br>The student-support/care team now meets on a weekly basis, and                                                                                                                                          |  |

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| place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | there is a clear system of referral in place for students in need of support. Work has been completed on the development of a guidance plan, and this represents the first stage in the compilation of a whole-school guidance plan. This work is now progressing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p>The deployment of the additional allocation of teaching hours to provide support for students with special educational needs should be planned for in advance, and included in the main timetable at the time of its construction, with due regard being given to reducing the number of teachers involved in providing the additional teaching supports, thus allowing for more continuity and ensuring less fragmentation of support.</p> <p>A timetabled weekly meeting time should be scheduled for the core SEN team to allow for the necessary planning for continuity of provision in order to meet the identified and priority needs of the students.</p> | <p><b>Very good progress</b></p> <p>The deployment of the additional allocation of teaching hours is now planned in advance with the assistance of the special education needs (SEN) co-ordinator, and is factored into the main timetable at the time of its construction. The ways in which these hours are used to support students is fully recorded. While the number of teachers involved remains high, there is a clear focus on ensuring the optimal use of the allocated resources for the benefit of students. Continuity of provision has been strengthened through the development of team-teaching in a number of key subjects.</p> <p>The SEN team now has a timetabled weekly meeting with senior management which is used to plan, organise and monitor all aspects of provision for students with special educational needs.</p> |
| As part of school self-evaluation (SSE), the school should publish or make available to parents a synopsis of its school improvement plan and SSE report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p><b>Very good progress</b></p> <p>The school's SSE report and school improvement plan are now published on the school's website.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Summary of findings</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent work has been undertaken by the new senior management team in implementing all of the recommendations from the WSE-MLL report. It is evident that the report has been carefully studied, and the recommendations used by senior management to bring about a significant level of improvement in the structures and systems in place in the school, in particular in relation to the work of key teams and in the provision of support for students. The quality of the work undertaken to date by the new management team is very high.</li> </ul>                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Recommendations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| No further recommendations arise in relation to the recommendations in the original report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

| <b>THE QUALITY CONTINUUM FOR FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTIONS</b>                                                                                                                                     |
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| <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**

## **Part A Observations on the content of the inspection report**

The Board of Management of St Colman's Community College welcomes the very positive findings of the 'WSE-MLL Follow -Through Report'.

The report endorses the work of key teams in the school and the provision of support for students and commends the school for its development of a Student Voice project. The school will continue to develop these areas so as to enrich learner experiences and enhance educational outcomes. The BOM welcomes the observation of the Inspectorate that "excellent work has been undertaken by the senior management team in implementing all of the recommendations from the WSE-MLL."

The school's progress has come about as a result of the dedication and commitment of students, staff, management and parents of St Colman's Community College who work together to create a positive school environment.

The BOM is committed to continuing to provide the very best education for the students in St Colman's Community College.

## **Part B Follow-up actions planned or undertaken since the completion of the inspection activity to implement the findings and recommendations of the inspection.**

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