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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
Promoting Improvement*

**Providing Inspection Services for  
Department of Education  
Department for Employment and Learning  
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**



**Education and Training Inspectorate**

**Report of a Baseline Inspection Visit**

**of**

**Bunscoil An Tsleibhe Dhuibh  
Naíscoil An Tsleibhe Dhuibh**

**May 2013**

## **INSPECTION VISIT TO NAÍScoil AN TSLEIBHE DHUIBH**

In 2010 the Belfast Education and Library Board established a new naíscoil, providing a full-time pattern of attendance, in Bunscoil An Tsleibhe Dhuibh for twenty-six children in their pre-school year.

An inspection visit to the naíscoil was carried out on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2013. This inspection evaluation is based on evidence gained from in-class observations and from the scrutiny of a range of relevant documentation provided by the school.

### **Summary of main findings**

During the visit, the following strengths of the naíscoil were observed:

- the caring and supportive staff who display respect for the children's ideas, foster their self-esteem, and provide a secure, supportive environment, which helps the children grow in confidence and independence;
- the hard-working and dedicated staff who co-operate well as a unified team and the high quality of their oral Irish which they use well for instructional purposes and to communicate with the children;
- the wide range of appropriate strategies including mime and gestures to support the children in developing a good understanding of Irish and to respond appropriately to the staff when questioned;
- the good promotion of the children's personal, social and emotional development which results in the children being able to attend to their own needs and to play co-operatively with their peers. The range of activities provided which offer good opportunities for learning in all the other areas of the pre-school curriculum;
- the good support for those children with special educational needs through the effective use of Individual educational plans and partnerships with the parents and other professional agencies to ensure that the needs of each child are met.;
- the good links and communication with the parents including, a monthly newsletter, song sheets, book-lending facility and Irish language courses for the parents encourage them to take an active role in the education of their children;
- the quality of the purpose-built accommodation and resources which are of a high quality and the good use is made of them to provide the children with an appropriate range of learning experiences.

In order to improve further the educational and pastoral provision, the staff should now:

- review and refine the range of assessment methods used and use of the observations of the children's learning and development to inform future planning to meet the children's differing needs.

### **Conclusion**

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by the naíscoil is good.

The naíscoil has important strengths in most of its educational provision. The inspection has identified areas for improvement which the naíscoil has demonstrated the capacity to address. The Education and Training Inspectorate will monitor the naíscoil's progress on the areas for improvement.

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