

*eti*

*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 Follow-up Inspection**

**Dara Playgroup  
Armagh**

**December 2010**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DARA PLAYGROUP, ARMAGH, BT60 4AL (5AB-0188)**

The inspection of the Dara Playgroup in April 2009 highlighted strengths in the centre's ethos, the varied programme provided for the children, and the attention given to developing the children's creative ideas and the promotion of the world around us aspect of the curriculum. The inspection also identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the interaction between the staff and the children;
- the link between the methods of assessment and the written planning; and
- aspects of the organisation of the day.

### **In the interval since the inspection, the following actions which affect the work of the centre have taken place:**

- the staff and the management group have worked closely with the centre's early years specialist (EYS) to address the main areas for improvement identified at the time of the original inspection;
- there has been a temporary change in staffing; and
- the leader has tendered her resignation and will leave the Dara Playgroup in February 2011.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out two monitoring visits in January 2010, and April 2010, and a follow-up inspection on 10 December 2010.

The action plan produced by the centre in response to the 2009 inspection findings was of good quality.

Satisfactory progress has been made in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection.

### **The following are the most important improvements since the inspection:**

- the majority of the staff are more focused on the learning to be promoted through the planned activities;
- the staff employ a wider range of strategies to help support the children in overcoming difficulties they may be experiencing; and
- the staff now use appropriate observations of the children's responses to the planned activities to inform future planning.

### **The area which requires further improvement is:**

- the need to develop further aspects of the organisation of the day, particularly the early part of the session, to ensure that all time is used more effectively to promote learning.

In most of the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this pre-school centre remains satisfactory; the strengths outweigh areas for improvement in the provision.

The pre-school centre has demonstrated evidence of improvement but significant areas for improvement in learning and teaching remain to be addressed if the needs of all the children are to be met effectively. The Inspectorate will monitor and report on the pre-school centre's progress in addressing the remaining area for improvement.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2011

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the ETI website:  
[www.etini.gov.uk](http://www.etini.gov.uk)

