

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

of

**Naíscoil na Banna
Portadown**

February 2014

FOLLOW UP TO THE INSPECTION OF NAÍScoil NA BANNA

The inspection in Naíscoil na Banna in June 2012, evaluated the provision overall as satisfactory. The inspection report highlighted strengths including the:

- friendly, caring ethos and attractively presented learning environment;
- well behaved children who display a positive attitude to their learning;
- good quality of Irish language spoken by the staff and the children's good level of understanding;
- good opportunities for learning in all areas of the pre-school curriculum; and
- hard-working team who demonstrate a commitment to the future development of the naíscoil

It also identified the need for the naíscoil to:

- ensure the staff have the opportunity and sufficient time to work together to plan the programme and record accurately the children's progress and development; and
- review and update all policy documents to ensure they are sufficiently detailed to guide the staff in their work, inform parents about key aspects of the provision and meet all statutory requirements.

The action plan received by the Department of Education (DE) following the inspection was of a good quality.

In the interval since the inspection, the following key actions which affect the work of the naíscoil have taken place:

- a new leader and two new naíscoil assistants have been appointed;
- all policies and procedures have been reviewed and revised to reflect the work of the naíscoil;
- a comprehensive method of observing, assessing and planning for progression in the children's learning has been developed and implemented; and
- the management committee has ensured that the staff have adequate time to work together to plan the naíscoil programme.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out two monitoring visits in June 2013 and October 2013 and a follow up inspection on 6 June 2014.

The following are the most important improvements that have taken place since the original inspection:

- the leadership is now very good and the leader is an effective role-model for the staff;

- the staff now have sufficient time for planning and work well as a team, they are clear about their roles and support each other and consistently interact well with the children during the session;
- the naíscoil now has appropriate policies in place to guide the staff in their work and communication with parents is more effective; and
- the quality of the learning experiences has improved across all areas of the pre-school curriculum; there is now good provision for learning in almost all areas of the pre-school curriculum

Conclusion

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this naíscoil is now good; the naíscoil has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The inspection has identified an area for improvement in the provision for learning which the naíscoil has demonstrated the capacity to address.

The area for improvement is:

- to develop further the short term planning to ensure a greater focus on the children's learning particularly in the area of World Around Us.

The inspectorate will monitor the naíscoil's progress on the area for improvement.

Health and safety

- There is a significant drop between the two outdoor play areas used by the naíscoil which presents a possible hazard to the children.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2014

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

