



*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**

**Scotwell House Playgroup  
Armagh**

**June 2014**

## **FOLLOW-UP REPORT TO THE INSPECTION OF SCOTWELL HOUSE PLAYGROUP**

The inspection of Scotwell House Playgroup in November 2011 evaluated the provision overall as satisfactory. The inspection identified the need for the playgroup to:

- implement more effective behaviour management strategies for the children who display challenging behaviour;
- review aspects of the daily routines to meet more effectively the needs of all the children; and
- develop a more integrated approach to observation, assessment and planning.

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

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

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

- the staff has reviewed the routines of the day and there is now effective use made of all the time available to extend the children's learning;
- an agreed behaviour management strategy for the children has been developed and this is being applied consistently and sensitively by the staff in both indoor and outdoor play sessions;
- the children are well settled, co-operative and respectful to the staff and each other; they demonstrate good social skills and are able to share and take turns;
- the staff has undertaken professional development and this has led to the earlier identification of children's individual learning needs and in providing the appropriate support required to help the children progress in their learning;
- more effective links have been developed with the local primary school to ensure a smooth transition to the Foundation Stage, particularly for those children requiring additional support with their learning;
- the staff has made a good start to the development planning process and have appropriately identified and implemented actions to promote further improvement; and
- the early years specialist from the Early Years Organisation has worked closely with the staff and has provided very good support in bringing about the necessary improvements in the provision for the children.

### **Conclusion**

In the areas inspected the quality of education provided by this playgroup is now good. The playgroup has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The follow-up inspection has identified an area for improvement which the playgroup has the capacity to address.

The area for improvement is:

- for the staff to continue to develop a more integrated and consistent approach to observation, assessment and planning with a clear focus on the children's learning with appropriate challenge, matched to their individual needs.

The Education and Training inspectorate will monitor the playgroup's progress on the area for improvement.

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