



*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

**Templepatrick Primary School Nursery Unit
Ballyclare**

June 2012

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF TEMPLEPATRICK PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY UNIT, BALLYCLARE. CO ANTRIM, BT39 0AQ (301-6014)

Templepatrick Primary School Nursery Unit was inspected in April 2010 as part of the focused inspection of Templepatrick Primary School. The inspection of the nursery unit highlighted strengths in the attractive and well planned playroom and play areas, the effective support for children with special educational needs (SEN), the thoughtful organisation of the daily timetable and the good communication with the parents.

The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key area:

- the staff need to develop further the methods of planning the programme and assessing the children's progress, in order to meet the children's differing needs and interests, and to guide more effectively the staff in their interaction with the children.

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

- a detailed audit of aspects of the nursery unit's provision was carried out which led to the identification of important priorities for further improvements in the provision;
- the staff have devised and implemented new planning and assessment formats;
- support has been provided by officers from the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) of the Northern Eastern Education and Library Board (NEELB);
- the staff have benefited from visiting a number of other nursery settings in order to promote further their professional development and reflection;
- the staff have attended the Hanen speech and language programme and other relevant training in child interaction and involvement, behaviour management, and child protection; and
- additional outdoor play resources have been acquired.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out one interim follow-up inspection visit in April 2011 and a follow-up inspection on 6 June 2012.

The action plan produced by the nursery unit in response to the original inspection findings was of a very good quality.

The following are the most important improvements since the focused inspection:

- the staff now provide the children with very good learning opportunities across all areas of the curriculum;
- the children's thinking skills, self management and personal and social skills are developed effectively through the range of exploratory, mathematical and creative activities and the wide range of outdoor play experiences provided by the staff;
- the staff's appropriate identification of the intended learning within each activity;

- the sharper focus given by the staff on the promotion of the children's language development, decision making and problem-solving skills;
- the now established and systematic recording of evaluations of the children's learning which supports future planning; and
- the very good culture of self-evaluation leading to improvement.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this nursery unit is now very good. The nursery unit is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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