

# PRE-SCHOOL INSPECTION



Education and Training  
Inspectorate

Seaview Nursery School,  
Warrenpoint

Report of an Inspection  
in December 2011

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON SEAVIEW NURSERY SCHOOL, WARRENPOINT  
(513-6629)**

**1. Details of Children**

<b>Number of children:</b>	<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Class 2</b>	<b>Class 3</b>
Attending full-time	25	0	0
Attending part-time	0	25	26
Under 3 years of age*	0	1	4
With statement of special educational needs	0	1	0
Without a statement but receiving therapy or support from other professionals for special educational needs	1	0	0
At CoP stages 3 or 4**	2	0	0
At CoP stages 1 or 2**	0	0	0
With English as an additional language	0	0	0

\* On 1 July.

\*\* The stages refer to those set out in the Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs.

Percentage qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 or 2.	7.6%
Average attendance for the previous year.	92%

**2. Duration of Sessions**

<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time: am</b>	<b>Part-time: pm</b>
4½ hours	2½ hours	2½ hours

**3. Details of Staff**

<b>Number of:</b>	<b>Full-Time</b>	<b>Part-Time</b>
Teachers	2	2 (Jobshare at 0.5)
Nursery Assistants (qualified)	2	2
Nursery Assistants (non-qualified)	0	0

<b>Number of: ***</b>	
Students	0
Trainees	0

\*\*\* Total placements since September of current year

**4. Parental Questionnaires**

Number issued	76
Percentage returned	36.8%
Number of written comments	9

**SEAVIEW NURSERY SCHOOL, WARRENPOINT, CO DOWN, BT34 3NF (513-6629)**  
**INSPECTED: 8 DECEMBER 2011**

1. Warrenpoint Nursery School is a purpose-built community nursery school in the town of Warrenpoint. It is set in its own grounds and currently operates one full-time session and two part-time sessions.

2. In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this nursery school is outstanding; the quality of the pastoral care is also outstanding. The nursery school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children; and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

**CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS**

3. The children are well settled and are making very good progress in their learning and development. Almost all of the children can play both collaboratively and independently for sustained periods. They make choices, follow the daily routines and manage their own personal care with confidence and independence.

4. The children use a range of tools with dexterity and enjoy making models and detailed representational drawings. Many of the children can play imaginatively and engage enthusiastically together in the stimulating role-play and construction areas. The children use their senses to explore and investigate the wide range of materials on offer, both indoors and outdoors.

5. Most of the children communicate confidently, both with the adults and their peers, during play and the smaller group sessions. Those children who have been identified as requiring support with their language development are also making good progress. Many of the children show an interest in mark making and looking at books which are incorporated effectively into areas of play. They listen attentively and show enjoyment as they participate in stories, songs and rhymes in larger group sessions and informally though the day.

**THE PROVISION FOR LEARNING**

6. The staff have worked hard to create a stimulating and attractive learning environment which promotes autonomous learning, both indoors and outdoors; all of the space within the nursery is used effectively. The staff involve the children in planning areas of play and present materials for them in an imaginative and creative manner.

7. The staff are all supportive and caring as they engage purposefully with the children. They have a good shared understanding of the learning to be promoted and make very effective use of opportunities to extend the children's thinking and language as they interact with them during activities and daily routines.

8. The very detailed planning, including the plans for individual children, is implemented consistently by all of the staff. The regular evaluation and assessment records are used effectively to identify support for specific children and to tailor the programme to their needs and interests.

9. The quality of pastoral care within this school is outstanding. There is an inclusive and supportive ethos, led effectively by the principal, which values the contributions of the children, staff, parents, and the wider local community.

10. The nursery has very good comprehensive arrangements in place for safeguarding children. These arrangements reflect the guidance issued by the relevant Department.

11. The nursery gives excellent attention to promoting health and well-being of both the children and their families. Dental health, healthy eating and a wide range of physical activity is promoted within the nursery and in conjunction with community initiatives.

12. The Principal has a clear vision for developing the work of the nursery school and provides effective leadership and management. The hard working staff team have clear roles and responsibilities and engage in relevant staff development and training. Effective self evaluation and reflective practice are evidenced by the significant improvements brought about in recent years.

**13. The key strengths in this nursery school include:**

- the excellent ethos which promotes the children's confidence and fosters positive attitudes and dispositions for their learning;
- the very high quality of the learning environment both indoors and outdoors;
- the high level of skills and expertise demonstrated by the whole staff team;
- the broad and balanced programme which provides very good to excellent opportunities for learning in all areas of the pre-school curriculum;
- the excellent links being developed with others including, parents, agencies and the local community; and
- the very effective leadership and management provided by the principal and the hard-working staff team.

14. In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this nursery school is outstanding; the quality of pastoral care is also outstanding. The nursery school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children; and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

### **QUESTIONNAIRES**

The arrangements for the inspection of pastoral care and child protection included the opportunity for the parents, the staff and the governors to complete a confidential questionnaire prior to the inspection. Almost 37% of the parents responded to the questionnaire and nine made additional written comments. The responses from parents indicated a very high level of satisfaction with the overall provision. In particular, they highlighted their appreciation of the caring and helpful staff, the wide range of activities provided, the excellent facilities both indoors and outdoors and the regular informative newsletter provided. A summary of the responses, including the small number of concerns raised, has been shared with the Principal and management of the nursery.

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