

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



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Education and Training Inspectorate

Area-Based Inspection

Dunclug Nursery School
Ballymena

February 2009

AREA-BASED INSPECTION - BALLYMENA AREA 2009: STRATEGIC PLANNING, COHERENCE IN LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an area-based inspection in Dunclug Nursery School during February 2009.

The strengths include:

- the good quality of the broad and balanced learning experiences, which are well matched to the needs and interests of the children;
- the very good provision which enables the children to develop an appropriate range of skills and dispositions for learning;
- the good quality of the care, guidance and support provided for children with identified learning needs; and
- the good links with organisations in the local community.

The areas for improvement include the need to:

- improve arrangements for strategic planning through the strengthening of the school's development planning process and self-evaluation procedures;
- provide more opportunities for the parents to contribute to the evaluation process, particularly in relation to the induction procedures; and
- improve the transition arrangements through the strengthening of the pastoral links with those primary schools to which the children will transfer, in order to ensure continuity and progression in the children's learning experiences.

While a few specific areas for improvement have been identified in this report, the composite report from the area-based inspection raises broader issues which need to be addressed by all of the schools and organisations visited.

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