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Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Carryduff Pre-School Playgroup
Belfast**

September 2007

REPORT OF A FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION IN CARRYDUFF PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP, BELFAST BT8 8DT (4BB-0170)

The inspection in Carryduff Pre-school Playgroup, Belfast highlighted strengths in the ethos and the quality of the staff's interactions with the children and identified the need for improvement in the following key area:

- the need to develop the programme for physical play in order to provide more appropriate experiences for the children.

In the interval since the inspection, the following actions which affect the work of the pre-school centre have been implemented.

- A large section of the outdoor grassed area has been resurfaced and new fencing erected.
- The staff have audited the resources for outdoor play and acquired a number of additional pieces of equipment.
- The staff have visited a number of pre-school settings.
- The leader has liaised with the Principal of the adjoining primary school and has agreed regular access to the school hall when required for physical play opportunities.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a series of inspection visits to the centre as part of the follow-up process. This report was compiled following the inspection visit on 27 September 2007 and also takes account of the findings of the visit in February 2007.

The following are the most important improvements brought about by the staff and the management group.

- The resurfaced outdoor play area and perimeter fencing provide a safer and more flexible learning environment outdoors.
- The additional resources and the revised layout of these resources have improved the opportunities to promote a better range of learning.
- The children are more purposeful during their physical play sessions. During the inspection visit there were much better opportunities for energetic physical play, the development of gross motor skills and imaginative play.
- The arrangements for using the school hall in the adjoining primary school add further opportunities to improve and extend the physical play programme.
- The leader has identified some appropriate areas for future development.

The minor area which needs further improvement is:

- the planning for outdoor play should be developed to ensure that the staff make most effective use of the improved outdoor area.

Good progress has been made in the key area for improvement identified during the original inspection but some minor areas still require improvement.

The centre is beginning to develop a process of self-evaluation leading to improvement.

The centre's progress in the minor area for improvement will be monitored by the District Inspector.

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