

PRE-SCHOOL INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Drumahoe Community
Playgroup, Drumahoe,
County Londonderry

Voluntary playgroup

Report of a Follow-up inspection
in June 2018



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

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FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF DRUMAHOE COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP, DRUMAHOE, COUNTY LONDONDERRY, BT47 3SD (2BB-0448)

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Drumahoe Community Playgroup in January 2017, which concluded that the playgroup needed to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all the learners. The areas for improvement included the need to:

- develop, with the support of the management committee and early years specialist, the self-evaluation and development planning processes, in order to bring about continuous improvement in the pre-school; and
- develop the planning and assessment methods to ensure that the children's individual needs are met more effectively and that they have appropriate challenge and progression across the year.

The pre-school's action plans were adjusted appropriately in light of the feedback given by the ETI.

The ETI carried out an interim follow-up visit in October 2017, and a follow-up inspection in June 2018.

In the interval since the initial inspection, the following actions or changes which affect the work of the playgroup included:

- the staff carried out visits to other settings to observe and compare alternative pre-school methods, procedures and practices;
- a new chairperson was appointed;
- the Early Years Specialist has provided training and support for the staff; and
- the staff have reviewed and amended the methods of planning and assessment, the outdoor play provision and aspects of the organisation of the day.

Key Findings

The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and action to promote improvement is now very good. The views of the parents, management group and staff are sought using a range of methods and contribute to the identification of key areas for improvement. A formal process of self-evaluation and development planning leading to improvement in all aspects of the provision are now in place with appropriate action plans to support this work. Very good links have been established with the parents and relevant support agencies and valuable information is passed to the local feeder primary school to aid the children's transition to the next stage in their educational journey.

The quality of provision is now very good. The staff have developed an effective approach to record keeping and assessment which incorporates relevant information about the children's progress and development throughout the year; this information is used well to inform future learning and teaching. The individual needs of the children are identified early and appropriate targets and strategies are put in place to address these. A varied programme, which includes suitable themes and topics, is planned for the children and is well matched to their stage of development, individual needs and interests. The outdoor area has been developed and now provides a wide range of interesting, challenging and progressive activities and experiences

for the children. The staff have reviewed aspects of the daily timetable and routines and as a result better use is made of all time for high quality learning and teaching. The quality of the staff interaction is consistently very good and promotes very well the children's learning across all areas of the curriculum. Appropriate emphasis is placed on developing the children's language and awareness of the world around them.

The outcomes for learners are very good. The children play an active role in all activities and routines and they engage very well with the staff and each other. They are developing well their independence and produce representational work of a very good standard that is age and stage appropriate for the time of year. The children's records, samples of work and photographic evidence indicate that almost all of the children, including those who require additional support with aspects of their learning are making very good progress across the curricular areas.

Overall Effectiveness

Drumahoe Community Playgroup demonstrates a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interest of all the children. The ETI will monitor how the playgroup sustains improvement.

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