

PRE-SCHOOL INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Glenbank Nursery School,
Belfast

Report of a Follow-up inspection
in December 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

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FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF GLENBANK NURSERY SCHOOL, BELFAST, BT14 8BW (111-0007)

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Glenbank Nursery School in October 2016, which concluded that the nursery needed to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all the learners. The areas for improvement included the need to:

- develop the planning further and identify more clearly the learning inherent in all of the activities, indoors and outdoors;
- make a clearer link between the observations of the children's learning and the planned activities; and
- develop self-evaluation to bring about improvement and to inform the school development plan more comprehensively.

The nursery'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 May 2017 and a follow-up inspection in December 2017.

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

- a reduction in the school budget has resulted in the loss of two additional staff members;
- the principal has visited high quality nursery provision to discuss best practice and has availed of appropriate staff development opportunities to enhance the provision in the nursery;
- the layout of the nursery, both indoor and outdoor, has been reviewed to make more effective use of all available space for learning and teaching; and
- the Education Authority has provided ongoing support to the staff to help implement the necessary changes.

Key Findings

The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and action to promote improvement is now good. The staff have reviewed key aspects of the provision and have improved learning and teaching in the nursery. The governors work closely with the principal and have observed first-hand some of the improved practices and procedures in the nursery. The methods of self-evaluation leading to improvement are developing well; key improvements have been identified and while significant work has been completed some aspects still require further work.

The quality of the provision for learning is now good. The planning is comprehensive, takes account of the children's individual needs and interests and outlines the intended learning. The staff make good use of the information gathered through their observations and record keeping to inform learning and teaching. The quality of the staff interaction with the children is of a high standard and promotes well the children's learning across most areas of the curriculum both indoors and outdoors. On a few occasions the children's art work is directed unduly by the staff.

The standards and achievements remain very good. The children are well behaved and explore and investigate happily the attractively-presented and well-resourced play areas. They spend lengthy periods of time in sustained and purposeful play, complete their tasks, engage well with the staff and their peers and can produce detailed representational work of a very good standard. They are familiar with the routines of the nursery and are developing well their independence.

Overall Effectiveness

Glenbank Nursery School demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners.

The ETI will monitor how the nursery sustains improvement in developing the process of self-evaluation to ensure high quality learning and teaching.

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