

# Education and Training Inspectorate PRE-SCHOOL INSPECTION



## Gleno Pre-school, Larne, County Antrim

Voluntary pre-school DE Ref No: 3AB-0241

Report of a Follow-up Inspection in October 2019



The Education and Training Inspectorate  
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

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## Introduction

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Gleno Pre-school in May 2018<sup>1</sup>, which concluded that the pre-school needed to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all learners. The important areas for improvement were to:

- develop further the planning and assessment methods to improve the overall quality of the provision and outcomes for the learners;
- review the organisation of the day to ensure that all time is used effectively for learning and that the children's attention and listening is developed through group stories; and
- monitor more rigorously at all levels of the leadership and management, how effectively the developmental work improves the quality of the daily provision and outcomes for the children; particularly in the Arts.

During this period, other actions or changes which affect the work of the playgroup include:

- changes in the staffing, leadership and management and early years specialist support;
- the allocation of additional hours to carry out developmental work.

## Key findings

The outcomes for learners are now very good. The children are well settled and almost all of them engage with concentration for sustained periods in self-initiated productive play throughout the session. They are highly independent in making choices, managing transitions to outdoors and participating in the tidy up routine. There is a high level of interest in books and stories and almost all of the children are developing very good attention and listening skills. The children develop their own creative ideas and imagination during extensive role play and use a range of art materials independently and with confidence.

The quality of provision is now good. The staff plan a good range of interesting activities which promote effective learning in almost all areas of the pre-school curriculum. The revised layout of the room, integral use of the outdoor area and the addition of richer resources and labelling in the environment, improve the quality of the experiences for the children. The staff interaction and engagement with the children is consistently of a high quality and is responsive to building on the children's own ideas. The planning and assessment are more effectively linked to the interests of the children. The planning for outdoor learning and energetic play requires further development to link the learning more specifically to the daily resources and guide staff more fully. Regular observations and assessments are used to identify the needs of the children and are beginning to inform the planning process. These are not yet sufficiently systematic and consistent.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.eti.gov.uk/sites/eti.gov.uk/files/publications/preschool-inspection-gleno-preschool-playgroup-larne-county-antrim-3ab-0241.pdf>

The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and action to promote improvement are now good. During the follow up process, the committee, independent early years specialist, leader and staff have worked effectively together to plan, monitor and bring about many improvements in provision and outcomes for the children. While the staff have undertaken relevant training linked to their priorities, further training is required to build their capacity to support the children with additional learning needs.

Gleno Playgroup demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all learners.

The ETI will monitor how the playgroup sustains the improvements in developing further: the planning for learning in outdoor and energetic play; the use of assessment to inform the planning process; and, the staff capacity to support the children with additional learning needs.

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