



Providing Inspection Services for Department of Education Department for Employment and Learning Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

Holy Family Kindergarten Ballymagroarty, Londonderry

June 2007

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION IN HOLY FAMILY KINDERGARTEN, BALLYMAGROARTY, LONDONDERRY (2AB-0038)

The inspection in October 2005 highlighted strengths in the ethos of the centre and the organisation of the session. It identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the need to review and update the centre's policies on special educational needs (SEN) and child protection and share this information with the parents; and
- the need to continue to develop a more consistent approach to assessment in order to ensure that the children's progress is identified clearly.

In the interval since the inspection, the following action which affects the work of the pre-school centre has taken place.

- There have been several changes in leadership. The current leader was appointed and took up post in November 2006.
- A new assistant took up post in September 2006.

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 4 June 2007, and also takes account of the findings of the visits in October 2006 and May 2007.

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

- The centre has a comprehensive policy for child protection which includes a code of conduct for the staff and an anti-bullying statement. There are clear procedures in place which are shared with the parents.
- The staff have developed a policy for SEN which outlines the provision made for children who require additional support.
- The staff have improved their system of observing and assessing the children's learning. They meet regularly to evaluate their programme and are beginning to link their observations to their planning. There is evidence within the children's profiles of progress in their development.
- The centre's early years specialist has provided valuable support for the staff.

The pre-school centre has made good progress in addressing the key areas for action. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the staff's commitment to improvement.

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