

PRE-SCHOOL INSPECTION

Hollywood Nursery School, County Down

Controlled nursery school, DE Ref No. 411-0030

Report of a Follow-up Inspection (Involving Action Short of Strike) in March 2023



Providing Inspection services for:
Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments



Second follow-up inspection visit to Hollywood Nursery School, County Down, BT18 9BU (411-0030)

Context

The nursery school was originally inspected in [June 2018](#) and was evaluated as having important areas for improvement, namely to:

- develop further the children's concentrated play, perseverance, creativity, imagination and problem solving;
- develop the written planning and use of assessment methods to identify more clearly the role of the adult and improve the quality of the children's learning across all areas of the pre-school curriculum, both indoors and outdoors; and
- ensure the self-evaluation processes focus more effectively on the impact of the actions taken to improve the quality of the children's learning and development.

ETI carried out an interim follow-up visit in March 2019, a follow-up inspection which was impacted by industrial action short of strike in [January 2020](#), and a monitoring visit in October 2021; a monitoring visit summary letter was provided to the school and the Department of Education.

The second follow-up inspection, carried out in March 2023, was impacted by industrial action short of strike (at the time of the follow-up inspection, some of the teachers were mandated by their union to participate in legitimate action short of strike, which includes not engaging with ETI inspections). The inspectors met with the chairperson and designated governor for child protection and safeguarding and reviewed a range of relevant documentation. Inspectors were unable to observe learning and teaching. As a result, the nursery school did not provide a complete inspection evidence base to demonstrate the school's progress in addressing the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection report.

The ETI has a [statutory duty](#) to monitor, inspect and report on the quality of education being provided for children and young people. Therefore, the inspection proceeded on a partial basis and the key findings in this report are based on the evidence made available at the time of the inspection visit.

Key findings in relation to safeguarding

In meetings with inspectors, representatives of the board of governors in the nursery school engaged in discussions with the inspectors about the arrangements for safeguarding children and provided a range of relevant safeguarding documentation. The policies and associated procedures reviewed are in line with the guidance from the Department of Education. However, the nursery school did not provide sufficient evidence for ETI to evaluate its arrangements for safeguarding children.

Conclusion

The nursery school's follow-up inspection is incomplete due to the industrial action short of strike. Based on the evidence made available there remains a need for the nursery school to:

- develop further the children's concentrated play, perseverance, creativity, imagination and problem-solving;
- develop the written planning and use of assessment methods to identify more clearly the role of the adult and improve the quality of the children's learning across all areas of the pre-school curriculum, both indoors and outdoors; and
- ensure the self-evaluation processes focus more effectively on the impact of the actions taken to improve the quality of the children's learning and development.

The ETI has been unable to evaluate the nursery school's progress in effecting the required improvements in the quality of its education provision for a period of three years since the first follow-up inspection.

As the nursery school did not provide sufficient evidence to evaluate the arrangements for safeguarding pupils, the Department of Education will write to the Education Authority and the Board of Governors to seek assurance in relation to the effectiveness of the school's arrangements for safeguarding children.

The ETI will continue to monitor the nursery school's progress, and the follow-up inspection will be completed at the request of the school up to and including June 2023. Subsequently, the inspection will be completed without further notice.

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