

eti

*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
Promoting Improvement*

**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

of

**Kilbride Playgroup
Ballyclare**

June 2015

FOLLOW-UP REPORT TO THE INSPECTION OF KILBRIDE PLAYGROUP

The inspection of Kilbride Playgroup in 2013, evaluated the provision overall as satisfactory.

The inspection identified the need for the playgroup to:

- develop the planning to ensure progression in learning across the pre-school year;
- improve the quality of the staff interactions in order to exploit more fully the learning within activities and extend the children's mathematical thinking and vocabulary; and
- develop the staff understanding of self-evaluation to ensure continuous improvement.

The inspection conclusion in October 2013 was:

'In most of the areas inspected, the quality of education provided in this playgroup is satisfactory; the strengths outweigh areas for improvement in the provision. The inspection has identified areas for improvement in standards, learning and teaching and leadership and management which need to be addressed if the needs of all the children are to be met more effectively.'

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out two interim follow-up visits in April 2014 and January 2015, and a follow up inspection on the 8 June 2015.

The following are the most important improvements that have taken place since the original inspection.

- The staff are now very effective in their interactions with the children exploiting more skilfully the learning to be promoted within the play activities and the daily routines. In particular, they listen carefully to the children's own ideas, model a good range of mathematical language, and use open-ended questions well to extend further the children's thinking and language development.
- The short term planning has improved and is implemented more consistently by the staff. The staff plan a good range of daily activities which are well matched to the time of year and the children's stages of development.
- The overall quality of the children's learning experiences has improved and they are progressing in line with the curricular guidance document. In particular, there are better opportunities for the children to develop their language and their observational skills and, the indoor physical play experiences are more varied.
- More information is provided to parents explaining how their children learn through their play and it encourages them to be involved in their children's learning.
- The organisation of the home- time routine has improved; the transition at the end of the session is smoother and provides better opportunities for parents and carers to engage with the staff.

- The staff are making good progress in developing their processes for systematically auditing and evaluating the provision linked to relevant quality indicators.
- The arrangements for safeguarding are now comprehensive. The intimate care policy has been updated and the chairperson has been vetted.

Conclusion

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this playgroup is now good; the strengths outweigh the areas for improvement in the provision.

The follow-up inspection has identified areas for improvement which the playgroup has demonstrated the capacity to address.

- to develop further effective systems for assessing the children's learning; and
- develop the outdoor play area;

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