

*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**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of a Follow-up Inspection**

**Magheradroll Nursery Unit,  
St Patrick's Primary School  
Ballynahinch**

**June 2007**

## **REPORT OF A FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION IN MAGHERADROLL NURSERY UNIT, ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, BALLYNAHINCH, CO DOWN, BT24 8DN (403-1665)**

The inspection in Magheradroll nursery unit in 2005 highlighted strengths in the centre's ethos; the quality of the relationships; and the commitment of the staff to the development of the nursery unit and identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the daily organisational and transitional arrangements in order to ensure that all the time is effectively used for the children's learning; and
- the assessment methods in order to identify more clearly the children's progress and development and to define the learning to be promoted to meet the children's individual needs.

In the interval since the inspection, the following changes which affect the work of the nursery unit have been implemented.

- There has been good quality in-school support and effective guidance from the Curriculum Advisory and Support Service (CASS) Early Years Officer.
- An additional member of staff has been employed to provide support for the implementation of the special educational needs programme.
- The use of the space in the nursery has been reviewed effectively and the areas for learning and display enhanced, including in the outdoor area.
- New resources have been purchased.
- The transition arrangements between the children's freely chosen play and the activities guided by the staff are well-organised and operate smoothly.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out a series of inspection visits to the unit as part of the follow-up process. This report is compiled following the inspection visit in June 2007 and draws on evidence from the visits carried out in May and October 2006. During the earlier visits, the findings indicated that steady progress on the key issues identified in the original inspection was being made.

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

- The staff have enhanced the resources significantly with an interesting range of books and natural materials. Careful consideration and evaluation, by the whole-staff of the children's responses to the activities and materials have resulted in the team creating stimulating and inviting areas for play both indoors and in the outdoor play environment. Art displays are more representative of the children's work.

- All time and routines are now used effectively to support the children's learning.
- The assessment methods are effectively identifying the interests and needs of the individual children; the staff are more skilful in evaluating the children's progress and development.
- There is evidence of a better understanding of, and team approach to, the design, organisation and implementation of a planned programme, based on the children's individual needs and interests.

The nursery unit has made very good progress in addressing the key areas for action. The parents and the broader community can have confidence in the school's commitment to improvement and the effectiveness of its action in response to the findings of the inspection.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2007

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the DE website: [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk) or may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR.