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*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

**Naíscoil Cholmcille
Derry**

December 2006

REPORT OF A FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION IN NAÍScoil CHOLMCILLE, SHANTALLOW, DERRY, BT48 8EN (2AB-0071)

The inspection in November 2004 highlighted strengths in the ethos of the centre, the effective involvement of the staff with the children in their play activities, and the good opportunities for the children to develop and acquire Irish naturally through the medium of play. The report identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the continued and systematic extension of the written planning and the consolidation of the assessment methods.

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

- There have been some staffing changes. The centre is in the process of appointing a third member of staff.
- Additional resources have been purchased, to enhance the opportunities for progression and challenge in all areas of play.
- The staff have attended relevant training on planning and observation and have received valuable support from their early years specialist.

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 1 December 2006, and also takes account of the findings of the visits in September 2005 and June 2006.

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

- The written planning now shows clear progression in the use of resources and the level of challenge provided in the activities. The role of the adult is more clearly defined, and the planning helps to promote skilful and effective interactions with the children.
- The staff have made good progress in developing an appropriate system of assessing and recording the children's achievements. The leader, as a role-model, provides valuable guidance for the staff in making their assessments of the children's learning and using this information to inform the planning.

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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