



*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**

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School Nursery Unit  
Belfast**

**May 2011**

## **FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE NURSERY UNIT, DUNMURRY, BT17 0EW (403-6591)**

Our Lady Queen of Peace Nursery Unit was inspected in May 2009 as part of the focused inspection of Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School. The inspection of the nursery unit highlighted the following strengths: the caring and supportive staff; the satisfactory opportunities for learning in most areas of the pre-school curriculum; the good progress in establishing systems of assessment of the children's development and achievement; the focused support from staff for children with special educational needs; the very good links with parents; and the teacher in charge of the nursery demonstrates a strong commitment to the welfare of the children and the development of the nursery.

The inspection identified the following area for development:

- the staff need to exploit more fully the learning potential within the planned activities and extend the children's thinking and learning, through more skilful interactions and a more creative and imaginative use of the available resources.

In the interval since the inspection, the following actions which affect the work of the nursery unit have taken place:

- the staff's continuing focus on, and commitment to, the development of clear and comprehensive action plans to guide and support learning and teaching;
- the staff's participation in a range of appropriate in-service training led by the Principal and specialist co-ordinators from the primary school to develop aspects of the pre-school curriculum, in particular, the progression in the World Around Us and the children's thinking skills and personal capabilities;
- members of staff have visited other pre-school providers to view practice in order to promote further their professional development and reflection; and
- additional outdoor play resources have been acquired.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out an interim follow-up inspection visit in January 2011 and a follow-up inspection in May 2011.

The action plan produced by the nursery unit in response to the original inspection was of a very good quality.

The following are the most important improvements since the inspection in 2009:

- the staff now provide the children with very good learning opportunities across all areas of the pre-school curriculum. The children's thinking skills and creativity develop effectively, in particular, through the imaginative role-play, exploratory mathematical activities and the outdoor play activities;
- the well-established and systematic recording of evaluations of the children's learning which supports planning and progresses effectively the children's knowledge, understanding and acquisition of skills;

- the staff's appropriate identification of the intended learning and development of further experimental and investigative activities which promotes successfully the children's decision-making opportunities and extended responses to the play activities; and
- the very good culture of self-evaluation leading to improvement.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this nursery unit is now very good. The nursery unit is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the learners and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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