



*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

**Roe Valley Community Playgroup
Limavady**

October 2008

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF ROE VALLEY COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP, LIMA VADY, CO LONDONDERRY, BT49 0BB (2AB-0532)

The original inspection in November 2006 highlighted strengths in the caring supportive atmosphere and the developing good links established with the parents and the wider community and, identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the programme of physical play;
- the organisation of the day;
- collaborative work to develop the planning and assessment methods;
- the evaluation of the quality of the children's experiences and the developing programme; and
- the promotion of the children's language and learning.

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

- there has been a high turnover of staff since the original inspection, a new leader was appointed and took up post in July 2008;
- the leader has worked with staff from the Health and Social Care Trust and the centre's early years specialist (EYS) to begin to improve the quality of the provision;
- new planning formats have been introduced in September 2008;
- the playroom has been redecorated;
- the centre's EYS has identified appropriate areas for improvement and provided appropriate advice and support on a regular basis; and
- some additional equipment and resources have been purchased since June 2008.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out an inspection visit to the pre-school centre as part of the follow-up process. This report was compiled following the inspection visit on 2 October 2008 and also takes account of the findings of the visit on 16 June 2008.

The following improvements have taken place, although they are still in the early stages of development:

- the staff have worked hard to create a more attractive and inviting playroom for the children;
- the leader has recently organised a parents meeting to inform them of the centre's policies and procedures;
- a monthly newsletter is being shared with the parents; and
- the daily timetable provides more choice for the children and encourages the development of their independence.

The areas which need further improvement are:

- appropriate training and development for the staff to support more effectively the children in their learning and to promote concentrated play;

- the provision of appropriate time for the staff to plan, develop and evaluate as a team, the quality of the programme, the children's experiences and their progress; and
- more effective leadership and management.

The pre-school centre does not have a development plan.

Although there has been some progress, the evidence from the follow-up inspection indicates clearly that important areas for improvement remain and significant further progress is still required to build on and sustain the improvement already made.

Despite the recent hard work and efforts of the staff, the Inspectorate does not yet have the confidence that the actions that have been put in place by the leadership are sufficient to bring about and sustain the necessary improvement.

A further follow-up inspection will be carried out during which the Inspectorate will report on the pre-school centre's progress in addressing these areas for improvement.

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