



*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

**Roe Valley Pre-School Playgroup
Limavady**

October 2015

FOLLOW-UP REPORT TO THE INSPECTION OF ROE VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP, LIMA VADY

The original inspection carried out in November 2013, concluded that the playgroup needed to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all the children. The inspection identified the need to:

- develop further the methods of planning the programme of activities to ensure adequate progress is made in all areas of the pre-school curriculum throughout the year;
- improve the system for recording the children's progress and how the information is used to meet the children's differing needs; and
- develop further the self-evaluative processes.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out two interim follow-up visit in September 2014 and March 2015, and a follow-up inspection on 9 October 2015.

The action plans have been adjusted in light of the feedback given by the ETI during the interim visits. The development plan was adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

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

- there have been changes in the staffing and the leadership roles of the leader and deputy leader due to arranged leave of absence; and
- the early years specialist (EYS) guidance has mainly been through cluster support and a small number of visits to the playgroup to identify areas for the staff to improve. The staff attendance at the cluster sessions is variable due to the staff changes in roles and responsibilities.

The following are the most important improvements from the last inspection:

- the staff have agreed a format for planning and a systematic key worker approach to assessment of the children's progress;
- the outdoor learning environment has been developed further to provide a wide range of stimulating activities; and
- a shared understanding among the staff is being developed about their need for tailored EYS advice, guidance and support to develop a more appropriate planned pre-school programme and to move forward to develop their capacity for self-evaluation.

The playgroup continues to need to address important areas for improvement.

The follow-up inspection has identified the following important areas where improvement is required:

- the planning needs to reflect the children's stages of development and the activities provided need to progress their learning according to the requirements of the Pre-School Curricular Guidance;

- the EYS needs to ensure that the staff are provided with clear direction, advice and guidance which enable them to self-evaluate and plan more effectively for improvement in the quality of the children's learning experiences and standards achieved within the playgroup; and
- the management group need to oversee the improvement work and ensure that the staff have more effective support and challenge to improve the quality of the playgroup's programme.

Overall effectiveness

The playgroup needs to address important areas for improvement in the interest of all the children. The ETI will monitor and report on the playgroup's progress in addressing the areas for improvement. There will be a second formal follow-up inspection.

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