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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

Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Seagoe Primary School Nursery Unit
Portadown**

June 2010

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF SEAGOE PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY UNIT, PORTADOWN, CO ARMAGH, BT63 5HS (504-6137)

Seagoe Nursery Unit (NU) was inspected in May 2008 as part of the focused inspection of Seagoe Primary School. The inspection of the NU highlighted strengths in the caring and welcoming ethos, the bright and stimulating learning environment, the well-organised routines and the committed teacher and staff team. The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key area:

- to develop further staff interaction with the children to fully exploit the learning potential of the planned activities across the pre-school curriculum.

In the interval since the inspection, the following action which affects the work of the NU has taken place:

- the outdoor play area has been developed to include a canopy which facilitates outdoor play during inclement weather;
- there are improved links between the NU and the school's foundation stage (FS); the NU teacher attends all of the FS staff meetings.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out one interim follow-up inspection visit (IFUV) and a follow-up inspection on 7 June 2010.

The action plan produced by the NU in response to the original inspection findings was of a satisfactory quality.

The NU's development plan has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The following are the most important improvements since the focused inspection:

- the staff interactions are more effective in building on the children's needs and interests; their interactions with the children are of a consistently good quality;
- the NU teacher has developed the short-term planning so that it guides more effectively the adults' day to day work with the children;
- key questions are planned for, displayed and used as prompts by all staff in their discussions with the children;
- there is an appropriate emphasis on the development of the children's language and communication skills; the children are enthusiastic and keen to talk about their play; and
- the staff carry out regular evaluations of the children's progress and their response to the learning activities provided; they are beginning to use the outcomes from these evaluations to inform their future planning.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this nursery unit is now good. The nursery unit has important strengths in most of its educational provision. The follow-up inspection has identified some aspects of the areas for improvement still to be addressed but equally the nursery and school have demonstrated the capacity to address these.

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