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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

Woodland Adventure Playgroup Augher

December 2008

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF WOODLAND ADVENTURE PLAYGROUP, AUGHER, CO TYRONE, BT77 OET (5AB-0418)

The inspection in April 2007 highlighted strengths in the centre's ethos, the valuable links established with the parents and the satisfactory or good learning opportunities in most aspects of the pre-school curriculum and identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- to review and update the child protection policy and procedures;
- to provide more opportunities for the staff to work together to develop further the methods of planning and assessment; and
- to review aspects of the organisation of the day to ensure that all time is used effectively to promote 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 significant drop in the number of pre-school children attending the centre this year;
- a temporary assistant has been employed to cover a period of sick absence; and
- the staff have recently implemented a Highscope approach to their work.

The Education and Training Inspectorate (Inspectorate) carried out an inspection visit to the centre as part of the follow-up process. This report was compiled following the inspection visit on 3 December 2008 and also takes account of the findings of the visit in December 2007.

The centre does not have a development plan.

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

- the leader completed her child protection training in November 2007. The policies for child protection and pastoral care have been reviewed and updated and the information shared with the parents;
- the daily timetable is organised in accordance with the Highscope approach and the time is used effectively to promote learning;
- the staff are developing the written planning; there is evidence that the programme is broad and balanced with many interesting and varied activities and experiences available for the children; and

- the staff record significant information about the children's responses to the activities.

The minor areas which need further improvement are:

- for the staff to develop further the evaluation aspect of the planning in order to inform future learning more effectively; and
- to develop the method of assessing the information gained through the observations in order to get an accurate account of the children's progress and development.

Since the inspection, the pre-school has not evaluated effectively the progress made in the areas for improvement. The Inspectorate recommends that the processes used for self-evaluation are developed more fully to focus strongly on self-evaluation as a means to bring about improvement.

Good progress has been made in most of the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this centre is now good. The centre has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The follow-up inspection has identified some aspects of the areas for improvement still to be addressed but equally the centre has demonstrated the capacity to address these.

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