

*eti*

*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 an Inspection**

**Caledon Playgroup,  
Co Tyrone**

**Inspected: November 2006**

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

<b>Name of pre-school centre:</b>	Caledon Playgroup
<b>Address:</b>	31a Derrycourtney Road CALEDON Co Tyrone BT68 4UE
<b>Management Type:</b>	Voluntary

<b>Date of inspection:</b>	8 November 2006
<b>Date of previous inspection:</b>	15 November 2000

### 1. Details of Children

<b>Total number of children:</b>	<b>am session</b>	<b>pm session</b>
• attending the pre-school centre	26	-
• in their immediate pre-school year	19	-
• funded by Department of Education	17	-
• qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 & 2	9	-
• with a statement of SEN*	0	-
• without a statement but receiving therapy or support from other professionals for SEN	1	-
• with English as an additional language	1	-
• who left in previous school year to attend reception provision within a primary school	0	-
<b>Attendance:</b>		-
• percentage attendance** of funded children for the previous school year	78%	-

\* Special Educational Needs

\*\* Calculated from the date when the intake was complete

### 2. Details of Staff

<b>Number of:</b>	<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time</b>
Staff, including leader	0	3
Staff holding recognised childcare qualifications	0	3
New appointments within previous 12 months	0	0

<b>Number of: ***</b>	
Students	1
Trainees	0

\*\*\* Total placements since September of current year

### 3. Details of Sessions

<b>Duration of morning session</b>	<b>Duration of afternoon session</b>	<b>Number of days open in previous year</b>
3 hours	0	188

### 4. Parental Questionnaires

Number issued to parents:	24
Percentage returned:	46.2%
Number of written comments:	5

## **CALEDON PLAYGROUP, CO TYRONE, BT68 4UE (5AB-0238)**

1. The centre is situated in a purpose-built mobile classroom in the town. The children come from the immediate area.

2. The parents, staff and management group were given opportunities to express their views about the centre through the inspection questionnaires. The responses indicated a high level of satisfaction with the provision. A number of parents included written comments praising the work of the staff.

3. The pre-school has a positive ethos and appropriate policies and procedures for child protection. The inspection evidence indicates that all of the staff show a high level of care for the children's welfare and implement the policies and procedures effectively. It is appropriate that the policies are regularly reviewed and approved by the management group.

4. The pre-school centre demonstrates a commitment to promoting healthy eating habits among the children. The children have regular opportunities to participate in some energetic physical play activities.

**5. The main strengths within the centre's educational and pastoral provision are as follows.**

- There is a caring atmosphere within the playroom. Relationships are very good at all levels.
- The daily timetable and necessary routines are organised to make effective use of all of the time to promote learning.
- The curriculum is broad and is providing good opportunities for learning across all six areas of the pre-school curriculum. The programme is well matched to the children's ages and stages of development and the children are displaying positive attitudes to learning.
- The staff use skilful questioning, to develop the children's language, extend the children's ideas and thinking and match their support appropriately to the children's needs. There are good opportunities for marking and early writing.
- There are many good opportunities for the children to develop their fine motor skills and to engage in safe physical play. It is appropriate that the staff plan to extend the time given to energetic play.
- There are excellent opportunities for the children to experiment with a range of creative materials. Under the guidance of the staff and the Arts Council Partnership facilitators the children have created interesting models related to the natural world.
- There are very good educational links with the two primary schools who share resources with the centre.

- All of the staff are hard-working and dedicated. The leader is a good role-model in promoting a high expectation for the pastoral and educational provision for the children and for meeting the wider needs of their families.

6. Although self-evaluation is at an early stage of development, the staff plan together and have a good shared understanding of the learning to be promoted through the play activities and how this will progress over the year. The planning is implemented effectively by all of the staff. The weekly evaluations and detailed assessment records on the children's progress are used to ensure there is a close match between the planning and the needs of the children. There is a need to broaden further the staff training in special educational needs.

7. The pre-school centre has major strengths in its educational and pastoral provision. The educational and pastoral needs of the children are being well met. The parents can have confidence in the pre-school centre's capacity for sustained self-improvement.

No follow-inspection is required.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- The electric socket in the kitchen is loose and needs to be secured to the wall.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2007

This report may be reproduced in whole or in part, except for commercial purposes or in connection with a prospectus or advertisement, provided that the source and date thereof are stated.

Copies of this report are available on the DE website: [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk) or may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR.