



*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

**Knockbreda Nursery School
Belfast**

Inspected: May 2008

STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON KNOCKBRED A NURSERY SCHOOL

1. Details of Children

Number of children:	Class 1	Class 2
Attending full-time	26	26
Attending part-time	0	0
Under 3 years of age*	0	0
With statement of special educational needs	0	0
At CoP stages 3 or 4**	0	0
At CoP stages 1 or 2**	5	0
With English as an additional language	0	0

* On 1 July.

** The stages refer to those set out in the Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs.

Percentage qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 or 2.	5.8%
Average attendance for the previous year.	92%

2. Duration of Sessions

Full-time	Part-time: am	Part-time: pm
4½ hours	-	-

3. Details of Staff

Number of:	Full-Time	Part-Time
Teachers	2	0
Nursery Assistants	2	1
Qualified Nursery Assistants	2	1

Number of: ****	
Students	0
Trainees	1

**** Total placements since September of current year

4. Parental Questionnaires (to be completed by Inspection Services Branch)

Number issued	52
Percentage returned	44%
Number of written comments	14

KNOCKBRED A NURSERY SCHOOL, BELFAST, BT6 0JJ (411-6239)
INSPECTED: 22 MAY 2008

1. The nursery school is situated in Wynchurch Road, Belfast. The children come mainly from the surrounding area.

2. The parents, staff and management group were given opportunities to express their views about the nursery through the inspection questionnaires. The responses have been taken into account as part of the inspection. All of those who responded were very satisfied with all aspects of the nursery's work. Many of the parents included written comments praising the work of the staff.

3. The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care and child protection is very good. The nursery has appropriate policies and procedures for child protection. The inspection evidence indicates that the staff implement these policies and procedures effectively and consistently to safeguard the children.

4. The staff in the nursery give very good attention to promoting health and well-being, including opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity, and have effective policies and programmes in place which encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles.

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

- The staff are caring and provide a secure, supportive environment, which helps the children grow in confidence and independence. The children are settled and well behaved; they relate well to one another; some firm friendships are developing. The nursery is bright and stimulating; good use is made of a wide range of the children's art work, posters, photographs and interest areas to create colourful displays around the nursery.
- The nursery's programme promotes effectively the children's personal, social and emotional development. The range of activities provided offers good or very good opportunities for learning in all areas of the pre-school curriculum.
- The written planning outlines a broad and balanced programme for the children, which is designed to foster their all-round development. It identifies many facets of learning inherent in the various aspects of play. A good range of themes and topics is used to introduce a variety of interesting activities in all areas of the pre-school curriculum.
- During the inspection, there were many examples when the staff provided the children with sustained support during play. The staff often encourage the children to observe and to think; they engage the children in valuable discussions about their play and their experiences.
- Good provision is made for the children with special educational needs. The staff make very good efforts to identify, address and monitor the particular problems faced by these children.

- The outdoor area has been imaginatively designed to provide a wide range of learning opportunities with excellent resources for physical play and for exploring the natural environment. The nursery has a good supply of resources which are well used to support learning in all aspects of the curriculum.

6. The Principal is highly dedicated; she provides effective leadership and is a good role-model for the hard-working staff. She sets a positive tone for much of the developmental work of the nursery. The staff are beginning to develop useful methods of self-evaluation; they need to continue to develop appropriate action plans to ensure sustained improvement in the nursery's provision.

7. The quality of education provided in this nursery school is very good. The educational and pastoral needs of the children are being well met. The parents and local community can have confidence in the school's capacity for sustained self-improvement.

No follow-up inspection is required.

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