

eti

*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
Promoting Improvement*



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

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

**Kylemore Nursery School
Coleraine**

Inspected: February 2008

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON KYLEMORE NURSERY SCHOOL,
COLERAINE (311-6215)**

1. Details of Children

Number of children:	Class 1	Class 2
Attending full-time	0	0
Attending part-time	52	51
Under 3 years of age*	8	22
With statement of special educational needs	2	1
At CoP stages 3 or 4**	0	0
At CoP stages 1 or 2**	9	11
With English as an additional language	0	1

* 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.	11%
Average attendance for the previous year.	88%

2. Duration of Sessions

Full-time	Part-time: am	Part-time: pm
-	2½ hours	2½ hours

3. Details of Staff

Number of:	Full-Time	Part-Time
Teachers	1	3
Nursery Assistants	3	3
Qualified Nursery Assistants	3	3

Number of: ***	
Students	1
Trainees	0

*** Total placements since September of current year

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

Number issued	103
Percentage returned	55.3%
Number of written comments	23

**KYLEMORE NURSERY SCHOOL, COLERAINE, CO LONDONDERRY, BT51 3HG
(311-6215)**

INSPECTED: 27 FEBRUARY 2008

1. The nursery school is situated in a purpose-built facility on the Kylemore Road, Coleraine. The children who attend the nursery come from the Heights and Killowen District of Coleraine and the surrounding areas. The ethos of the nursery is reflective of the long-standing cross-community relations and positive partnerships with other schools.

2. The parents, staff and governors were given opportunities to express their views about the nursery through the inspection questionnaires. Almost all of the responses returned indicate a very high level of satisfaction with the provision.

3. The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care and child protection in the nursery school is excellent. It has comprehensive policies and procedures for child protection that comply fully with the Department of Education Circulars and guidance. The inspection evidence indicates that these policies and procedures are implemented effectively by all of the staff who show a very high level of concern for the children's welfare.

4. The nursery gives excellent attention to promoting health and well-being, including opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity, and has effective policies and programmes in place which encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles.

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

- There is an excellent ethos which promotes successfully the children's self-confidence, self-esteem and excellent behaviour.
- The organisation of the nursery's timetable provides long periods of uninterrupted play, during which the children have adequate time to make choices and to explore appropriately the full range of stimulating activities in the open-plan arrangement.
- The quality of the interaction between the staff and the children is of an excellent quality. The staff exploit skilfully the opportunities throughout the sessions to promote the children's language development and thinking skills.
- There is a wide range of interesting activities that encourage the children's curiosity and imagination and promote excellent learning in all areas of the pre-school curriculum. There are particular strengths in the promotion of the children's personal, social and emotional development, the early mathematical concepts and outdoor physical play. The children's environmental awareness is developed most effectively through the regular and well-integrated curricular visits to a woodland school.
- The planning and assessment systems are of a good standard. Individual education plans have been developed to ensure that children who require additional learning support are integrated appropriately into the nursery programme and that they are making progress in their learning.

- The nursery has established effective extended school provision and links with the local community.

6. The Principal provides excellent leadership and sets high expectations throughout the practice in the nursery school. The staff operate as a dedicated and highly effective team; they are reflective practitioners. The comprehensive strategic plan identifies a cycle of continuous improvement which benefits the children's learning experiences.

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

No follow-up inspection is required.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- The lack of appropriate car-parking facilities within the grounds of the nursery school leads to traffic congestion in the morning and afternoon.

© CROWN COPYRIGHT 2008

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 or may be obtained from the Inspection Services Branch, Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR.