

Providing Inspection Services for
Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure





Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of an Inspection

Rainbow Playgroup Eglish, Dungannon

Inspected: May 2007

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Name of pre-school centre:	Rainbow Playgroup
Address:	114 Killyliss Road
	Eglish
	DUNGANNON
	Co Tyrone
	BT70 1LE
Management Type:	Voluntary

Date of inspection:	24 May 2007
Date of previous inspection:	11 October 2001

Details of Children 1.

	am	pm
Total number of children:	session	session
attending the pre-school centre	30	13
in their immediate pre-school year	26	0
funded by Department of Education	25	0
• qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 & 2	0	0
• with a statement of SEN*	1	0
• without a statement but receiving therapy or		
support from other professionals for SEN	0	0
with English as an additional language	2	0
who left in previous school year to attend		
reception provision within a primary school	0	0
Attendance:		
• attendance** of funded children for the		
previous school year	84%	N/A

^{*} Special Educational Needs
** Calculated from the date when the intake was complete

2. <u>Details of Staff</u>

Number of:	Full-time	Part-time
Staff, including leader	3	2
Staff holding recognised childcare qualifications	3	2
New appointments within previous 12 months	0	1

Number of: ***	
Students	1
Trainees	0

^{***} Total placements since September of current year

3. <u>Details of Sessions</u>

Duration of morning	Duration of afternoon	Number of days open
session	session	in previous year
3 hours	2 hours	187

4. <u>Parental Questionnaires</u>

Number issued to parents:	22
Percentage returned:	45.4%
Number of written comments:	4

REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF RAINBOW PLAYGROUP, EGLISH, DUNGANNON, CO TYRONE, BT70 1LE (5AB-0335)

- 1. The pre-school centre is situated on the Killyliss Road, Eglish. The majority of the children attending the centre come from the village of Eglish and the surrounding rural area.
- 2. The parents, staff and management group were given opportunities to express their views about the centre through the inspection questionnaires. The responses received were taken into account as part of the inspection. All of those who completed the questionnaire were satisfied or very satisfied with all aspects of the centre's provision.
- 3. The centre has a suitable written policy on child protection, which is shared with the parents. The staff have discussed and developed appropriate procedures to safeguard the welfare of the children.
- 4. The centre demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting healthy eating habits among the children. Good opportunities are provided for the children to participate in a range of appropriate physical activities.

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

- The centre has a caring atmosphere; the working relationships between the staff and the children are very good which engender an atmosphere of mutual respect. The children are at ease with the adults and turn to them confidently to meet their needs and to share in their play and for reassurance and support.
- The daily timetable provides useful periods of uninterrupted play during which the children have adequate time to make choices and to explore appropriately the full range of activities.
- The staff work hard to create an attractive and organised learning environment. The children enjoy the activities presented and are generally well-settled.
- During the inspection, there were many instances of effective interaction between the staff and the children that helped to extend the children's language and thinking skills.
- There are good opportunities for learning in all areas of the pre-school curriculum. The significant strengths of the provision are the promotion of the children's confidence and independence, language development, early mathematical concepts and the wide range of visits and visitors that extend the children's awareness of the world around them.
- The centre has established valuable links with the parents and a local primary school. Appropriate information about the curriculum and the children's progress is provided regularly to parents.

- The planning and assessment methods are effective. Individual information is used well to plan activities to meet the children's individual interests and needs.
- 6. The leader manages the centre effectively. There is a strong sense of team-work among the dedicated staff. They have made a useful start to self-evaluation through the daily assessment of the play programme. The staff should continue to develop the reflective approach to their work, with support from the centre's early years specialist, in order to extend further the outdoor physical play provision.
- 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-up inspection is required.

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