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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
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*Providing Inspection Services for*  
**Department of Education**  
**Department for Employment and Learning**  
**Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**



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## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of an Inspection**

**St Peter's Playgroup**  
**Moy**

**Inspected: March 2007**

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

<b>Name of pre-school centre:</b>	St Peter's Playgroup
<b>Address:</b>	90 Collegelands Road Charlemont MOY Co Tyrone BT71 6SW
<b>Management Type:</b>	Voluntary

<b>Date of inspection:</b>	14 March 2007
<b>Date of previous inspection:</b>	27 March 2001

### 1. Details of Children

<b>Total number of children:</b>	<b>am session</b>	<b>pm session</b>
• attending the pre-school centre	22	-
• in their immediate pre-school year	17	-
• funded by Department of Education	17	-
• qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 & 2	2	-
• with a statement of SEN*	0	-
• without a statement but receiving therapy or support from other professionals for SEN	2	-
• with English as an additional language	0	-
• who left in previous school year to attend reception provision within a primary school	0	-
<b>Attendance:</b>		
• attendance** of funded children for the previous school year	88.5%	-

\* 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	4	0
Staff holding recognised childcare qualifications	4	0
New appointments within previous 12 months	1	0

<b>Number of: ***</b>	
Students	0
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>
3½ hours	-	192

## 4. Parental Questionnaires

Number issued to parents:	20
Percentage returned:	40%
Number of written comments:	1

## **ST PETER'S PLAYGROUP, MOY, CO TYRONE, BT71 6SW (5BB-0334)**

1. The centre is situated in spacious mobile accommodation within the grounds of St Peter's Primary School. Since the last inspection there have been several staffing changes. The current leader was appointed in September 2005 and a fourth member of staff was appointed in January 2007.

2. The parents, staff and management group were given opportunities to express their views about the centre through the inspection questionnaires. The responses have been taken into account as part of the inspection. Those who responded expressed high levels of satisfaction with the work of the centre.

3. The pre-school centre has appropriate policies and procedures for child protection. The inspection evidence indicates that the policies and procedures are implemented consistently by the staff. Some minor additions are needed to ensure they are comprehensive and the staff should ensure that all procedures are shared with the parents.

4. The pre-school centre demonstrates a commitment to promoting healthy eating habits and a healthy lifestyle among the children. Good opportunities are provided for the children to participate in a range of appropriate energetic physical activities.

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

- There is a friendly, welcoming atmosphere within the centre and relationships between the staff, parents and children are good.
- The staff are caring and supportive and they know the children well. The children are generally settled and well behaved; they are encouraged to play amicably and to help one another.
- An inviting learning environment has been created for the children, in the playrooms and in the secure outdoor area. The centre has a suitable range of resources which the children can access to extend their play.
- There are satisfactory opportunities for learning in all areas of the pre-school curriculum. The staff work hard to promote the children's personal, social and emotional development. During the inspection, there were many instances of co-operative and concentrated play.
- Useful planning methods have been developed which help to guide the staff in their work with the children.
- The communication with parents is good. A variety of appropriate methods is used to inform the parents of the work of the centre and their children's progress.

**6. The inspection identified areas for improvement. The following are the most important areas that need attention.**

- Aspects of the daily routine should be reviewed and improved in order to ensure that all time is used effectively to promote the children's learning.
- The staff should ensure that their interactions with the children take more account of the children's needs and interests and are more effective in extending the children's thinking and independence.
- There is a need for the staff to be more consistent in their approach to observing and recording evidence of the children's progress across all areas of the pre-school curriculum, particularly in relation to those children with special educational needs.

7. The new leader is energetic, enthusiastic and committed to the development of the centre. The staff work well together as a team; they meet regularly to plan and evaluate the programme. They should continue to develop this reflective approach to their work. They should now work with the centre's management group and their early years specialist to create a development plan for the centre, based on the findings of this inspection.

8. The pre-school centre has strengths in many aspects of its educational and pastoral provision. The inspection has identified a few important areas for improvement which need to be addressed to meet effectively the needs of all the children.

The Education and Training Inspectorate will monitor and report on the pre-school centre's progress in addressing these areas for improvement.

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