



*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

**Tempo Community Playgroup
Co Fermanagh**

Inspected: January 2007

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Name of pre-school centre:	Tempo Community Playgroup
Address:	The Diamond Main Street TEMPO Co Fermanagh BT94 3LU
Management Type:	Voluntary

Date of inspection:	25 January 2007
Date of previous inspection:	8 March 2001

1. Details of Children

Total number of children:	am session	pm session
• attending the pre-school centre	24	-
• in their immediate pre-school year	24	-
• funded by Department of Education	24	-
• qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 & 2	3	-
• 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	0	-
• who left in previous school year to attend reception provision within a primary school	0	-
Attendance:		
• percentage attendance** of funded children for the previous school year	99%	-

* Special Educational Needs

** Calculated from the date when the intake was complete

2. Details of Staff

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

Number of: ***	
Students	1
Trainees	0

*** Total placements since September of current year

3. Details of Sessions

Duration of morning session	Duration of afternoon session	Number of days open in previous year
2¼ hours	0	186

4. Parental Questionnaires

Number issued to parents:	24
Percentage returned:	83.3%
Number of written comments:	6

TEMPO COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP, CO FERMANAGH, BT94 3LU (2AB-0349)

1. The centre is situated in a community hall in the village. The children come from the surrounding area.

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. The responses indicated a high level of satisfaction with the provision.

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. A number of parents included written comments which praised highly the work of the staff.

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

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

- There is a caring, stimulating and purposeful learning atmosphere in the centre. Relationships are very good at all levels. The staff prepare the playroom carefully and the children enjoy lengthy sessions of play. The children's behaviour is excellent.
- The parents are welcomed into the playroom and there are effective formal and informal arrangements for sharing information about the children's progress and development.
- The daily timetable and necessary routines are well organised to make effective use of all of the time to promote learning.
- The programme is broad and balanced and is providing good opportunities for learning across all six areas of the pre-school curriculum. The shared staff understanding of the effective promotion and planning of a pre-school programme to meet the children's individual needs and interests significantly enhances the provision.
- There are many good to excellent opportunities for the children to develop sustained interactions with the staff. The children display high levels of concentration and motivation in their play.
- There are very good opportunities to promote the children's personal, social and emotional development; other key strengths of the programme are the development of the children's language skills, their mathematical understanding, and their appreciation of the world around them.

- The staff are committed to the development of the centre. All the staff value the support of their early years specialist and benefit from cluster group training including, for example, the shared experience of a recent study visit to Sweden. The leader is well-organised and all the staff are skilful in their work with the children. There are good leadership and management arrangements that help create a strong sense of team-work among the staff.

6. The centre's systematic use of methods for self-evaluation has begun to influence improvement. The staff plan together and have a good shared understanding of the learning to be promoted and how it will progress over the year. The planning is implemented effectively. The weekly evaluations and detailed assessment records on the children's progress are used well to ensure there is a close match between the planning and the needs of the children. Additionally, the staff have appropriately self-evaluated the quality of the centre's ethos. The staff now need to consider how they may gather supporting evidence of the improvements made and identify an action plan for the areas they need to develop further.

7. The 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 centre's capacity for sustained self-improvement.

No follow-up inspection is required.

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