



*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**



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Chapel Road Community Playgroup
Derry**

March 2012

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF CHAPEL ROAD COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP, DERRY, BT47 2BD (2BB-0565)

The inspection of Chapel Road Community Playgroup in January 2011 highlighted strengths in the happy and settled children and the collegial teamwork approach provided by a hard-working staff dedicated to the improvement of the provision. The inspection also identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- to review aspects of the daily timetable, routines and the use of different play areas to ensure that all the time and space is used more effectively to promote learning and concentrated play;
- to increase the opportunities for learning related to the world around us (WAU) and the provision of a wider range of creative and expressive activities; and
- to develop further the written planning and focus more on the learning to be promoted in the activities provided.

In the interval since the inspection, the following action which affects the work of the playgroup has taken place.

- The playgroup management committee have appointed an effective independent early years specialist to support the staff in developing the provision.
- The parents have donated additional resources for the development of the WAU area of learning.
- A new format for planning has been developed which enables a greater focus on the children's responses to the activities.
- The staff are more confident in assessing the children during play and appropriately record their progress and development.
- The playroom has more defined areas of play with a wider range of resources and the daily timetable is now focused on using all the time during a session to promote learning.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a monitoring visit in November 2011 and a follow-up inspection on 7 March 2012.

The action plan produced by the playgroup in response to the inspection findings was of a good quality.

The school's development plan was adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The following are the most important improvements since the inspection.

- The staff have adjusted the planning to focus more directly on the children's spontaneous play and interests and the progression they make throughout the year.
- There are many instances of good quality interaction, particularly in the development of the children's mathematical language and in the promotion of the children's creative and expressive ideas.

- The WAU area of learning is clearly defined in the planning; the staff use the outdoor provision and have added resources to extend the children's experiences in this key area.
- There has been an effective review of the daily timetable and routines to ensure the children are learning to take turns and develop conversations.
- The staff support more effectively the children's independence and learning.
- The staff have developed a better understanding of the link between planning and assessment and are more focused on meeting the children's individual learning needs.

In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this playgroup is now good. The playgroup has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The follow-up inspection has identified some aspects of the areas for improvement still to be addressed but equally the organisation has demonstrated the capacity to address these.

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