



*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

**Humpty Dumpty Playgroup
Banbridge**

May 2012

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF HUMPTY DUMPTY PLAYGROUP, BANBRIDGE, CO DOWN, BT32 4AA (5AB-0466)

The inspection of Humpty Dumpty Playgroup in March 2011 highlighted strengths such as the happy, confident children; the bright, well-organised learning environment; the good use of large group time in the hall to promote the children's understanding of early mathematical language; the effective promotion of the children's interest in reading; the good communication with parents to help them support their children's learning; and the hard-working leader and staff.

The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- to ensure consistently high quality adult interactions with the children; and
- to use the observations and evaluations more effectively to inform the planning and to ensure progression in the children's learning.

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

- an additional member of staff has been appointed to work in the playgroup on two days per week;
- the staff have undertaken appropriate cluster group, centre-based and external training in aspects of provision such as behaviour management, self-evaluation and development planning;
- the playgroup has developed further the programme of support for the parents, to include an information evening focused on promoting positive behaviour;
- the staff have begun the process of self-evaluation to promote improvement through, for example, consultation with the parents about aspects of the playgroup's provision;
- the staff have reviewed the procedures for observation and planning; and
- the playgroup has received well-focused support from their independent early years specialist.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out two interim follow-up visits in October 2011 and February 2012 and a follow-up inspection on 3 May 2012.

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

The playgroup's development plan has been adjusted in light of the inspection findings.

The following are the most important improvements since the inspection:

- the children make very good use of books throughout the playroom for information and enjoyment;
- the procedures for recording observations of the children at play are implemented consistently by all staff;

- the staff make more effective use of the observations, reflections and evaluations to inform planning and to respond to the children's changing interests and needs;
- the quality of the adult interactions with the children is consistently good and, in many instances, it is very good;
- the staff have developed and make effective use of a range of visual prompts to promote positive behaviour; and
- all of the staff have a clear understanding of the playgroup's procedures for reporting and recording concerns about child protection and safeguarding.

An area for improvement is the need to:

- review the programme and the arrangements for large group physical play in order to ensure more consistent progression in learning for all of the children.

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 an area for improvement which the playgroup has demonstrated its capacity to address. The Education and Training Inspectorate will monitor the playgroup's progress on the area for improvement.

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