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*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 a Follow-up Inspection

**Ardmonagh Family and Community
Pre-School Playgroup
Belfast**

May 2007

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION IN ARDMONAGH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP, BELFAST, BT11 8DX (1AB-0014)

The inspection in January 2006 highlighted strengths in the centre's ethos and the care of the staff and also identified the need for improvement in the following key area:

- continue to develop the staff's skill in extending, and building on the children's language and learning.

In the interval since the inspection, the following action which affects the work of the pre-school centre has taken place.

- The centre has moved back to its original site which has been extended and completely refurbished.
- The staff have received suitable training from their early years specialist and the centre's childcare co-ordinator.
- The staff have used a self-assessment tool to evaluate aspects of their work.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a series of inspection visits to the centre as part of the follow-up process. This report was compiled following the inspection visit on 3 May 2007 and also takes account of the findings of the visit in December 2006.

The following are the most important improvements brought about by the staff and the management group.

- The staff demonstrate greater skill in extending, and building on, the children's ideas to promote more consistently the children's language and learning.
- During the inspection visit, there were many good examples of the effective use of open-ended questions to promote the children's thinking skills.
- Staff give sustained support to specific children to develop their language and concentration.
- Better opportunities are provided for the staff to meet the parents informally at the beginning and end of the sessions.
- The staff have worked hard to develop their skills and bring about improvement in the overall quality of the teaching and learning.

The pre-school centre has made good progress in addressing the key areas for action. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the staff's commitment to improvement and the effectiveness of their action in response to the findings of the inspection.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- During outdoor play, in strong sunlight most of the children did not wear sunhats.

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