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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

## **Education and Training Inspectorate**

### **Report of a Follow-up Inspection**

**Gleno Pre-School  
Larne**

**January 2008**

## **REPORT OF A FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION IN GLENO PRE-SCHOOL, LARNE, CO ANTRIM BT40 3LG (3AB-0241)**

The inspection in March 2006 highlighted strengths in the ethos and the children's personal and social development and also identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the need for consistent, effective staff interaction with the children;
- the planning for the children's learning; and
- the assessment methods.

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

- the early years specialist has resumed her post after a period of extended leave;
- the number of funded pre-school places has increased from eight to ten;
- the staff have attended relevant training courses including autism, music, first-aid and a physical development programme;
- the policies are in the process of being reviewed and updated; and
- the staff have introduced new planning and assessment formats.

This report was compiled following the inspection visit on 9 January 2008.

The pre-school centre has a useful development plan which has been developed since the first inspection.

### **The following are the most important improvements brought about by the staff and the management group:**

- the staff are more consistently effective in building on the children's own ideas and promoting a wider range of learning and language through the play activities;
- the staff promote a wider range of early mathematical ideas and place more emphasis on developing the children's thinking skills;
- the use of books is promoted more effectively throughout the playroom;
- the children have better opportunities to investigate early mark-making;
- the planning takes more account of the children's interests and highlights more clearly the learning to be promoted; and
- the methods for recording the children's progress are more systematic.

**The minor areas which need further improvement are:**

- the continued development of the staff's interaction with the children;
- the need for the staff to work closely with their early years specialist to develop a fuller understanding of how the children's stages of development in learning should underpin the planning process; and
- the policies should be completed, agreed with the management group and shared with the parents as soon as possible.

Since the inspection, the pre-school has made a useful start in evaluating the progress made in the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection. The Inspectorate recommends that these processes for self-evaluation are developed further as a means to bring about continuous improvement.

The follow-up inspection findings confirm that the pre-school centre has demonstrated evidence of improvement, but some areas for improvement remain to be addressed more fully. The pre-school's progress in the continuing areas for inspection will be monitored by the District Inspector.

## **APPENDIX**

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Since the last inspection, the front door has been made secure, with access being controlled by the staff.

The broken tiles on the front step are currently a potential hazard for the children as they arrive.

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