

EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
INSPECTORATE

PRE-SCHOOL INSPECTION

Naíscoil an Lonnáin, Belfast

Irish-medium, voluntary, DE Ref No 1BB-0476

Report of a Follow-up Inspection in May 2024



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# Follow-up to the inspection of Naíscoil an Lonnáin, Belfast, BT12 4PD (1BB-0476)

## Introduction

Naíscoil an Lonnáin is situated in a classroom within Gaelscoil an Lonnáin on the Falls Road in West Belfast. The 11 pre-school aged children attending the naíscoil come from the local area. There have been significant and frequent changes in staffing since the time of the last inspection, particularly within this current year.

This follow-up inspection was carried out in May 2024 and provided the naíscoil with the opportunity to demonstrate its progress in addressing the areas for action from the time of the last inspection in May 2019.

## Views of parents, staff and pupils

The ETI issued online confidential questionnaires to parents and staff in advance of the follow-up inspection; no responses were received.

## Key actions

During this period, the key actions which affect the work of the school include:

- the naíscoil has received external support provided by an early years specialist (EYS) from Altram with aspects of leadership and management, child protection and the cycle of planning, observation and assessment.

## Key findings

- The children are happy in the naíscoil and at ease with each other and with the adults. The adults interact pastorally with the children and are effective linguistic role models. At the time of this inspection, most of the children played purposefully and collaboratively at the role-play, creative art, dough and small-world areas. They engaged outdoors in physical play and enjoyed balancing, running, throwing and cycling.
- Progress has not been made on the areas for action left at the time of the last inspection. There currently does not exist a system of planning, observation and assessment to guide the learning and teaching or to monitor the children's progress in learning. Similarly, there is no formal process of self-evaluation or planning for improvement in place. No documentation relating to planning or self-evaluation was made available to inspectors at the time of this inspection.
- It continues to be important that the management committee plans for, and manages, issues related to the sustainability of the naíscoil in order to address the current and future needs of the children and the staff.

## Child Protection

At the time of the inspection, the evidence provided by the naíscóil demonstrates that the arrangements for child protection align to the current statutory guidance.

Some of the information in the child protection policy and on display for parents is not up-to-date and accurate; ETI will monitor the progress of the naíscóil in reviewing and updating the information provided within the policy and on display in the school.

## Going Forward


The inspection has highlighted several areas for further action. Naíscóil an Lonnáin will require sustained external support to help it address the areas for further action detailed in the report.

Further action will be considered by the Department of Education.

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