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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 an Inspection**

**Drumnamoe Nursery School  
Lurgan**

**Inspected: February 2009**

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON DRUMNAMOE NURSERY SCHOOL,  
LURGAN (513-6631)**

**1. Details of Children**

<b>Number of children:</b>	<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Class 2</b>
Attending full-time	26	0
Attending part-time	20	26
Under 3 years of age*	9	11
With statement of special educational needs	1	0
At CoP stages 3 or 4**	8	0
At CoP stages 1 or 2**	2	0
With English as an additional language	1	0

\* On 1 July.

\*\* The stages refer to those set out in the Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs.

Percentage qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 or 2.	5.1%
Average attendance for the previous year.	82%

**2. Duration of Sessions**

<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time: am</b>	<b>Part-time: pm</b>
4½ hours	2½ hours	2½ hours

**3. Details of Staff**

<b>Number of:</b>	<b>Full-Time</b>	<b>Part-Time</b>
Teachers	2	0
Nursery Assistants	0	2
Qualified Nursery Assistants	2	0

<b>Number of: ***</b>	
Students	5
Trainees	0

\*\*\* Total placements since September of current year

**4. Parental Questionnaires**

Number issued	69
Percentage returned	65%
Number of written comments	27

**DRUMNAMOE NURSERY SCHOOL, LURGAN, CO ARMAGH, BT67 9EU  
(513-6631)**

**INSPECTED: 18 FEBRUARY 2009**

1. Drumnamoe Nursery School is situated on the Levin Road in the Kilwilke Estate, Lurgan. It serves the pre-school population of North Lurgan and the surrounding area of Aghagallon. There are currently 72 children attending the nursery.

2. The arrangements for the inspection of pastoral care and child protection included the opportunity for the parents, the management group and the staff to complete a confidential questionnaire prior to the inspection. A majority of the parents responded to the questionnaire and 27 made additional written comments. The responses from all of the parents indicate high levels of satisfaction with the quality of the provision. They are all very appreciative of:

- the friendly, very helpful Principal and staff; and
- the very caring, well organised learning environment.

The responses from the management group and the staff were also very positive and supportive of the work of the nursery. In particular the management group appreciate how they are consulted and kept informed of all developments within the nursery. The responses have been taken into account as part of the inspection and were shared with the staff and management group.

3. The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care in the nursery is outstanding. There is a warm, caring environment, the staff know the children very well and working relationships at all levels are excellent.

4. The nursery has very good arrangements in place for safeguarding children. These arrangements reflect the guidance issued by the relevant Department.

5. The nursery gives very good attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity. The nursery is involved in the 'Boost Better Breaks' scheme and there are regular opportunities for energetic outdoor play, which encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles.

**6. The main strengths within the nursery's educational and pastoral provision are as follows.**

- An atmosphere of enjoyment and productivity permeates all areas of the nursery. There is a vibrant learning environment which promotes the children's creativity, confidence and independence; the children display a positive attitude to their learning and respond well to the high expectations of the staff.
- The daily sessions and routines are very well organised with effective, purposeful use of all of the time available; the staff interact very effectively with the children to extend their thinking and to meet their individual needs. The interactions are of a consistently high quality.

- There are excellent learning opportunities within the playrooms and in the outdoor areas to promote learning in all aspects of the pre-school curriculum. The children are confident, independent and show sustained interest in their activities. The promotion of their creativity, early science experiences and language development are particular strengths of the programme.
- There is excellent provision for the children with special educational needs; the staff provide very good levels of support whilst encouraging as much integration and independence as possible; the parents are kept fully informed of their children's programmes, progress and development. The teachers' observations indicate that the children are making good progress.
- The planning is consistently of a high quality. It outlines clearly the planned learning and progression for all the nursery routines and activities; it is reviewed regularly to take account of the children's changing interests, needs and stages of development.
- The nursery is very well managed. The outstanding leadership and management of the Principal is underpinned by highly effective team-work and the excellent contribution made by the assistant teacher, assistants and support staff.

7. The nursery has a comprehensive development plan with appropriate targets for improvement. There is a strong culture of self-evaluation and staff development which contributes significantly to the high quality of provision for the children.

8. In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this nursery school is outstanding; the quality of pastoral care is also outstanding. The nursery school has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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