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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -  
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CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

*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**

**Dunnaman Children's Centre  
Kilkeel**

**Inspected: November 2007**

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

<b>Name of pre-school centre:</b>	Dunnaman Children's Centre
<b>Address:</b>	37-39 Fearon Close Scrogg Road KILKEEL Co Down BT34 4ER
<b>Management Type:</b>	Voluntary

<b>Date of inspection:</b>	20 November 2007
<b>Date of previous inspection:</b>	18 February 2002

### 1. Details of Children

<b>Total number of children:</b>	<b>am session</b>	<b>pm session</b>
• attending the pre-school centre	14	-
• in their immediate pre-school year	14	-
• funded by Department of Education	14	-
• qualifying under DE admission criteria 1 & 2	5	-
• with a statement of special educational needs	0	-
• without a statement but receiving therapy or support from other professionals for special educational needs.	1	-
• with English as an additional language	0	-
• who left in previous school year to attend reception provision within a primary school	0	-
<b>Attendance:</b>		
• attendance* of funded children for the previous school year	94%	-

\* Calculated from the date when the intake was complete

## 2. Details of Staff

<b>Number of:</b>	<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time</b>
Staff, including leader	3	0
Staff holding recognised childcare qualifications	3	0
New appointments within previous 12 months	0	0

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

\*\* Total placements since September of current year

## 3. Details of Sessions

<b>Duration of morning session</b>	<b>Duration of afternoon session</b>	<b>Number of days open in previous year</b>
2½ hours	-	190

## 4. Parental Questionnaires

Number issued to parents:	14
Percentage returned:	57.1%
Number of written comments:	4

**DUNNAMAN CHILDREN'S CENTRE, KILKEEL, CO DOWN, BT34 4ER  
(5AB-0404)**

1. The centre is situated off the Newry Road on the outskirts of Kilkeel. The children come from the local community.

2. The parents, staff and management group were given opportunities to express their views about the centre through the inspection questionnaires. In their response nearly all of the parents expressed satisfaction with aspects of the centre's provision. The written comments have been shared with the staff.

3. The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care and child protection is very good. The pre-school centre has appropriate policies and procedures for child protection. The inspection evidence indicates that the staff implement these policies and procedures effectively and consistently to safeguard the children.

4. The centre gives very good attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity, and has effective policies and programmes in place to encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles.

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

- There is a very positive ethos based on excellent relationships at all levels. The staff make very good use of the space available to create an attractive and interesting learning environment for the children. The children display a positive attitude to their learning and are very well behaved.
- The staff interact with the children in a caring and supportive manner and the quality of their interaction is consistently of a high standard.
- There are good learning opportunities in most aspects of the pre-school curriculum. The promotion of the children's personal, social and emotional development and the development of the children's language and early mathematical awareness are particular strengths of the programme.
- The staff have developed appropriate methods of planning and assessment; good efforts are made by them to address the learning difficulties experienced by some of the children.
- The leader is a good role-model for the staff and is effective in promoting a team-spirit. The staff are hard-working and display much commitment to the children's welfare and the future development of the centre.

6. The staff implement useful methods of self-evaluation. To date good progress has been made in reviewing the partnership with the parents and the provision for physical play in the centre. The early years specialist has made a very good contribution to the overall development of the provision in this pre-school centre. The staff report the support provided is helpful and well focused.

7. The quality of education provided in this pre-school centre is very good. The educational and pastoral needs of the children are being well met. The parents can have confidence in the centre's capacity for sustained self-improvement.

No follow-up inspection is required.

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