Safe and Sound Pre-school, Ballynahinch

Inspection Summary Report - January 2025

- The pre-school's vision is realised through the provision of a safe, nurturing and child-centred learning environment where the children are happy and excited about their learning.
- The excellent teamwork, high levels of selfreflection and robust, well-embedded selfevaluation processes ensure a consistently high standard of practice across the preschool.
- The staff plan skilfully a holistic pre-school programme that is responsive, thoughtful and tailored to the individual needs of each child.
- The music curriculum is a key strength, enhancing the children's creativity, building their confidence, supporting their emotional health and wellbeing, and developing their early language skills.
- The children are making good progress across all areas of the pre-school curriculum.
- The collaborative team maintains excellent relationships with families and builds strong connections with the wider community, which supports very well the overall development of the children.
- At the time of the inspection, the evidence provided by the school demonstrates that the arrangements for child protection align to the current statutory guidance.

Going forward

- Safe and Sound Pre-school is a safe, secure and stimulating space where the children experience excitement and joy in their learning. The pre-school's approach is rooted in reflective practice, teamwork and building relationships with families and the community, which is enabling every child to be supported to reach their full potential and develop a love of learning.
- The aspects of practice which should be shared more widely are:
 - the highly effective self-evaluation processes which enable the staff team to develop a curriculum that is well-matched to the needs of every child; and
 - the music provision which promotes and develops effectively the children's language, self-confidence, expression and emotional regulation.
- The ETI will continue to work with Safe and Sound Pre-school, including to share examples of highly effective practice set out above from which others may learn.



