

**PRIMARY INSPECTION**  
Hart Memorial Primary School  
and Nursery Unit, Portadown

Report of an Inspection  
in May 2010

Education and Training Inspectorate

## **6. THE NURSERY UNIT**

6.1 The main strengths within the nursery unit's educational and pastoral provision are as follows:

the nursery unit has a very positive ethos based on excellent relationships at all levels. The staff create a calm, caring and supportive atmosphere; the children are motivated and show good concentration and co-operation in their chosen activities. The very attractive and stimulating environment both indoors and outdoors arouses the children's curiosity and results in purposeful, productive and enjoyable learning experiences;

the well-planned programme is broad and balanced and offers excellent opportunities for learning in all the areas of the pre-school curriculum. Many of the children use appropriate mathematical language as they engage in the wide range of activities; they show interest in books and can retell their favourite stories. The children's art work is of a high standard, it shows good attention to detail. There is evidence that all of the children are making good progress in their learning;

there are excellent links and communication with the parents and appropriate outside agencies;

the high quality interaction between the staff and the children, promotes settled and productive play. They encourage the children to observe, to think, and to make choices; the children's efforts are valued and they are given much encouragement and praise;

there is excellent provision for children who require additional support with aspects of their learning; the children are fully integrated into all aspects of the nursery programme and the staff encourage them to be as independent as possible. There is effective liaison with the parents and other professionals; the children demonstrate good progress in their learning; and

the teacher-in charge has a high level of professional competence and exerts a significant, beneficial influence over all aspects of the nursery unit's work. She is a good role model through the quality of her work with the children and sets high standards for herself and others. There is excellent co-operation among the hard-working and dedicated staff team who work together effectively in the best interests of the children.

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

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON HART MEMORIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY UNIT**

**1. Details of Children**

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

\* On 1 July.

\*\* Special Educational Needs.

\*\*\* 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.	6%
Average attendance for the previous year.	87.6%

**2. Duration of Sessions**

<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time: am</b>	<b>Part-time: pm</b>
-	2 ½ hours	2 ½ hours

**3. Details of Staff**

<b>Number of:</b>	<b>Full-Time</b>	<b>Part-Time</b>
Teachers	0	2
Nursery Assistants	0	0
Qualified Nursery Assistants	1	0

<b>Number of: ****</b>	
Students	3
Trainees	1

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

**4. Parental Questionnaires (to be completed by Inspection Services Branch)**

Number issued	52
Percentage returned	42%
Number of written comments	11