

## **Portglenone Community Playgroup Trustees Report** **2021/2022**

**Portglenone Community Playgroup**  
**Gortgole Road**  
**Portglenone**  
**BT448HT**  
**Playgroup Mobile Number: 07398886769**

***Charity Number: 100654***

Portglenone Community Playgroup is a voluntary preschool setting situated in a central location. We operate from the local community centre. We have an equal opportunities policy in place for both staff recruitment and child admissions. We currently have four full-time staff members. All staff are fully qualified and continually update their training when necessary. The Playgroup is operated by a management committee made up of a chairperson, secretary, treasurer, staff and parents. This committee meets four to five times an academic year. The first meeting is an AGM where the election/re-election of chairperson, secretary and treasurer takes place. The committee discusses fundraising ideas, resources for the Playgroup to function and allocates the provision of staff time and money along with other important decisions.

We are currently registered for 24 aged three and four years old through Social Services. We are also inspected by ETI and are members of Early Years. We closely follow the preschool curriculum under the 6 key areas. These are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional
- Language
- Physical
- The Arts
- Early Maths
- World Around Us

Our aim is to educate and meet the needs of all individual children in a safe and caring environment. Each child has a key worker and are closely observed to ensure that their needs are being fully met and that they are progressing daily through a variety of suitable activities and resources. Staff use these observations to plan for each child's specific need. All children are encouraged to become independent and sociable, and through this we aim to prepare each child for primary education. We operate from 09.15 am to 12.00 noon, Monday to Friday. Children have the

opportunity for physical play, small/large group play, story/song time and healthy snack each day.

A Social Services Inspection report stated that all minimum standards were being met and we always receive positive feedback from parents of the children through a variety of correspondence including questionnaires.

The money we receive comes from Education Authority. It is paid on a monthly basis. The money allocation is dependent on the number of preschool children in attendance. This money is spent on resources to enhance the children's learning, rent, staff wages and educational trips. Trips include the following:

- Autumn and Spring trip to the local Forest
- Local Primary School for Christmas Nativity and Fun Day
- Opticians
- Library
- Open Farm
- Indoor Play area

We also have several visits each year from outside professionals such as dentist, nurse, fire and rescue service, PSNI and teachers from the local Primary School. We also have several parents who visit and discuss their job role with the children. There has been more money this year invested in outside agencies such as Mr Hullabloo and Jo-Jingles, visiting playgroup as during the pandemic there were no visits permitted. We also spent more on taking the children on trips as we feel this promoted their social skills after being confined due to lockdown.

The public benefit of our setting is that the children attending received first class care and support from a committed staff team in a suitable learning environment. This enables them to gain a good foundation for Primary School. It also benefits the parents of the children attending as their preschool education is shared and this will also free up some time for the parents themselves.