

GPCC



Graiguecullen Parish Childcare Centre CLG



**INCLUDING
ME**



Including Me

'Early childhood education holds tremendous promise for raising a new generation, with each child not only proud of their own heritage and identity, but committed to standing up against bias in all its many forms'

Margie Carter and Deb Curtis (1994)



Hi, I'm Eoin!



Look at all the things I can do!



**I like
taking
care of
others.**





**I like when others
take care of me.**





I like playing outside with my friends.



**I like taking
part in group
activities.**





**I like exploring and
learning new things.**



I like to help at tidy up time.



Our Preschool uses Aistear, the early years curriculum framework for all children aged from birth to 6 years.

Identity and Belonging Aim 4 Learning Goal 2 of Aistear says that in partnership with the adult, children will show an awareness of their own strengths, abilities and learning styles and be willing to share their skills and knowledge with others.





We like to pretend play together...playing doctors and 'Ring-a-ring-a-Rosie'.



My friends like to try out my chair.



We love to relax and listen to Jessica reading us a story.



We love to play music.



In every class above the baby room, there is at least one friend who assumes the role of 'caretaker' or 'special friend' to the child with Down syndrome.

Source: (Down syndrome Ireland)





My 'special friend' is Beth.

'The heart of anti-bias work is a vision of a world in which all children are able to blossom, and each child's particular abilities and gifts are able to flourish'

Source: L. Derman-Sparks and J Oldsen
Edwards (2010)

Children with Down syndrome like to be with other children and actively seek out their company. This makes integration into any group far easier and rewarding for all of the children.

Source: (Down syndrome Ireland)

Thank you to everyone who took part in the making of this book. Management and staff of Graiguecullen Parish Childcare Centre, the children of room 3 and most especially Eoin and his family for giving us permission to create this.



I am also included in the Down Syndrome Ireland Calendar. Here I am looking at my picture in the calendar.