

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015CC319
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	J & J Over the Rainbow Pre-School Ltd.
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Tisaxon Lodge, Tisaxon, Kinsale, Co. Cork
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<b>Eircode:</b>	P17 D260
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Jane Neville
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<b>Service type:</b>	Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	14 February 2023
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	17	PM	n/a
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate Administration Building St Mary's Health Campus Gurrabraher Cork T23X440
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	V. McCarthy
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector

### Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(J) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

<b>Conditions if applicable</b>	Not Applicable
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### Description of service

J & J Over the Rainbow Pre-School Ltd. operates as a sessional service that also caters for children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE). The service caters for children aged between two years and six years. The opening hours for the service are 09.00 hours to 12.30 hours daily. The service operates from a room on the ground floor of a detached building that is situated close to the registered provider's private residence. There is one care room divided into two areas for children's activities, an entrance lobby and two children's toilets. There is an outdoor play area situated to the rear of the premises.

### Staffing

There are three adults including the registered provider attached to the service. Each of the adults working directly with the children has a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications.

### Methodology

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of early years services in Ireland. The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 define the duty of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of children and to comply with these regulations. This Act also gives Tusla the authority to assess compliance with the regulations. The purpose of regulation in relation to early years services is to ensure that the care, safety, and well-being of children attending such services is upheld. Inspections of early years services are planned based on the following:

- Previous inspection history
- Any information received in relation to the service

The findings on inspection are based on:

- Information obtained through examination of documentation
- Direct observation
- Discussion with relevant staff

This inspection was unannounced and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspections may also focus on other areas as required.

Inspection findings are documented in the inspection report which is first issued in draft format to the service with an opportunity to respond to any findings.

Where statutory requirements are identified as not being met, the registered provider must demonstrate how they have rectified the non-compliance and will prevent any non-compliance from re-occurring. The Corrective Action and Preventive Action plan (CAPA) will be used to inform decisions about compliance with regulatory requirements. Where the registered provider fails to meet the statutory requirements an escalation process may be commenced.

The inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including clarity, completeness and compliance with administrative and legal processes.

The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.

## Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

### Part III – Management and Staff

#### Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

- (a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,
- (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and
- (c) there is a clear management structure in the service that identifies the lines of authority and accountability in the service and the specific roles and responsibilities of each employee and unpaid worker.

(2) A registered provider shall ensure that each employee, unpaid worker and contractor is suitable and competent taking into consideration the nature of the needs of children, including by-

- (a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,
- (b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,
- (c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and
- (d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.

(4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major award in Early childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

#### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) The service had a named person in charge and a deputy that could deputise as required.
  - (b) The registered provider who was the named person in charge was on duty when the inspector arrived at the premises and remained on duty for the duration of the inspection.
- (2)
- The inspector focussed on all three staff files to assess vetting.
- (a) There were two references and required validations available on file from past employers in respect of the adults.
  - (b) There were four reference and required validation from sources other than past employers.
  - (c) A Garda vetting disclosure was available on file in respect of each of the three adults.

(d) Police vetting was available on file in respect of two of the adults that had lived outside the jurisdiction for a period of six months or more.

(4)

A copy of a childcare qualification as listed on the National Qualifications Framework was available on file in respect of each of the three adults.

### Part III – Management and Staff

#### Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

*(1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.*

*(3) Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) therefore at that reference number is satisfied.*

#### Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider ensured that there were an adequate number of adults always working directly with the children.

(3) On the day of the inspection there were three adults working with 17 children present. The ratio of staff to children exceeded the requirements.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

#### Regulation 19 - Health, welfare and development of child

(1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that-

(a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child, and

#### Compliance Information

(1)(a)

#### SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AROUND CHILDREN

- The three key adults were on duty, and they spoke reassuringly and kindly to the children in their care.
- Each child's behaviour was managed in a competent and positive way by the adults. They assisted and supported the children as they carried out activities such as crafting clouds out of cotton wool and creating Valentine cards with paper and red netting.
- It was noted that the adults instilled confidence in the children by offering them praise and positive reassurance for tasks carried out such as tidying up after eating.
- The children participated together in activities such as free play, outdoor games, storytelling, colouring, and jigsaw play. It was noted that the children played together easily, and that each child engaged kindly in activities with their peers as demonstrated by taking turns to go on the slide or sharing books.
- The service operated in partnership with parents and guardians. General Information regarding the services' facilities and activities was provided to them by means of a parent's handbook. An individual visit and tour of the premises, when it was not in operation, was also offered to potential parents and guardians. Information was shared daily with participating parents and guardians by means of emails, an electronic application and by notice boards which were displayed in the main entrance foyer.
- Parents and guardians were spoken to informally daily at drop off and collection times and formal meetings were arranged as requested by them regarding their respective child.
- The service carried out weekly team meetings and records of the meetings were available in the services' diary for review by the inspector.
- The service had developed strong links with Better Start and had obtained accreditation for training in Healthy Ireland Smart Start Preschool. The registered provider had also developed good relationships with Cork County childcare and Early Childhood Ireland and was actively involved in Early Years hub groups for the further development of quality in the sector.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 23 - Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

A registered provider shall ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of a pre-school child attending the service and that the environment of the service is safe.

#### Compliance Information

##### Infection Control:

- Detailed daily and weekly cleaning templates were available for review and it was noted that the premises, equipment and play materials were kept in clean and good condition.
- Regular handwashing by the children was carried out before eating and after toileting, messy play and outdoor play.
- All wash hand basins were provided with thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid soap and paper dispensers. The water temperature was recorded at 25.4°C during the inspection.
- Children's bags and belongings were stored on shelving units.
- A box of paper tissues was available for any child who required a tissue to facilitate their nasal hygiene. Pedal operated bins were available throughout the premises for the safe disposal of used tissues and paper towels.
- Apron covers were available for the children as they participated in painting activities to protect their clothing from spillages.
- A fridge was available in the care room for the storage of the children's perishable food.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 25 - First aid

*(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a person trained in first aid for children is, at all times, immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service.*

*(2) A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children-*

- (a) is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and*
- (b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.*

#### Compliance Information

(1)  
The service provided evidence that two adults had training in first aid response (FAR) and that one of these adults was always on the premises.

- (2)
- (a) There was a fully equipped first aid box available the premises and it was stored high on a wall mounted rack out of children’s reach.
- (b) The first aid box was always available on the premises.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 26 - Fire safety measures

- (1) *A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of-*
- (a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and*
- (b) the number, type and maintenance record of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.*
- (4) *A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.*

### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) Records of monthly fire drills carried out at the service were available on file. The last fire drill was carried out on 08 February 2023.
- (b) Records regarding the number, service and type of fire equipment were maintained on file. The fire equipment and wired smoke alarm last had a maintenance service during April 2022.
- (4)
- Copies of the fire evacuation procedure for the service which contained details in relation to the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire were displayed in the care room and entrance lobby.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 - Insurance

*A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.*

#### Compliance Information

The services' insurance certificate was available on the premises and demonstrated that the service was adequately insured. The information provided on the insurance certificate included details of the number of children covered daily which was 22. The start date, which was 28 March 2022, the end date, which was 27 March 2023, the category of service covered which sessional service and the name and address of the premises. The insurance cover also referred to details regarding, contents, public liability and fire and theft cover.

### Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

#### Regulation 29 - Premises

*A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-*  
*(e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

#### Compliance Information

(e) There was an adequate number of toilets and wash hand basins available on the premises. There were two toilets and two wash hand basins available in the toilet area adjacent to the care room for use by the 17 children. There was also a wash hand basin positioned in the care room that could be used by the children for additional hand washing. There was a toilet and wash hand basin for adult use positioned in the studio which was situated on the first floor over the preschool. Each wash hand basin was provided with liquid soap, paper towels and thermostatically controlled hot water for hand washing. The water temperature was recorded at 25.4° during the inspection. Pedal operated bins were available throughout the premises for the safe disposal of used paper towels and used tissues.