

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015CC393
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Name of Service:	Stickyfingers Childcare
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Address of Service:	Willowtree House, Ballinvredig, Ballinspittle, Co. Cork
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Eircode:	P17 HX53
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Name of Registered Provider:	Olwyn Shorten
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	14/01/2025
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Day 2:	28/01/2025
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No of pre-school children day 1:	AM	54	PM	39
No of pre-school children day 2:		50		42

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate Administration Building St Mary's Health Campus Gurrabraher Cork
Inspection undertaken by:	D Prendergast & M O' Reilly
Title:	Early Years Inspectors

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).

Conditions if applicable

13th June 2024

Regulation 8 and 23 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Service) Regulations 2016

The Registered Provider will be required to comply with the following conditions:

- Your service is required to adhere to the approved registration status and ensure no more than 44 children are in attendance at any one time.
- Your service is to comply with the Fire Safety Officers instructions to attain regularisation of your fire safety certificate.
- Your service is required to provide the Agency with a copy of your fire safety certificate and related documentation showing compliance with fire safety.
- Your service shall make no material changes concerning the registration status of the service without prior application to, and approval from, the Agency.

These conditions are in place for 12 months.

Description of service

Stickyfingers Childcare is a privately owned full day care service, that also provides sessional and part time care. It is registered to cater for children aged 0 to 6 years. This includes children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme, which is accommodated over 38 weeks of the year. Registered daily opening hours are from 7.00am to 6.00pm, however, the setting currently operates from 7.50am to 5.30pm. A registered school age service is also provided.

The service is situated in a rural area of Ballinspittle, near Kinsale in Co. Cork. The main prefabricated building consists of two care rooms, namely ECCE 1 and the Toddler room, adjacent sanitary facilities, a sleep room, a reception room and a multi-purpose room, which was previously in operation as a sleep room. ECCE 1 also includes an extended 'shelter' area. A third care room, referred to as the ECCE 2/Under the Sky room, is provided from a wooden cabin, located in the outdoor area. The children have the use of three outdoor play spaces, including one large, main play area.

Staffing

A total of 15 adults work at the setting, all of whom are involved in the direct care of the children. This includes the registered provider and one adult employed under the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) support scheme. Each of the 15 adults have achieved a recognised award in Early Childhood Care and Education.

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 inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under:

- Regulation 8 - Notification of change in circumstances
- Regulation 9 - Management and recruitment
- Regulation 11 - Staffing levels
- Regulation 16 - Record in relation to pre-school service
- Regulation 19 Health, welfare and development of child
- Regulation 23 - Safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of child
- Regulation 28 – Insurance
- Regulation 29 – Premises

However, on inspection, additional non-compliance which posed a risk was identified under Regulation 27 - Supervision. These findings are outlined under the relevant regulation within this report.

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 reoccurring. 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.

Additional Information

Conditions were attached to the service’s registration on 13 June 2024, under Regulation 8 and 23 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Service) Regulations 2016, for a period of 12 months.

During the inspections on 14 and 28 January 2025, it was noted that the following conditions attached to the registration of this service were not complied with:

Regulation 8 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Regulations) 2016, the registered provider must:

- adhere to the approved registration status and ensure no more than 44 children are in attendance at any one time.

There was evidence that the following conditions attached to the registration of this service were complied with:

- Your service shall make no material changes concerning the registration status of the service without prior application to, and approval from the Agency. No further material changes were noted to have been made since the previous inspection on 24 January 2024.

Regulation 23 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Regulations) 2016, the registered provider must:

- Comply with the Fire Safety Officer’s instructions to attain regularisation of the fire safety certificate and provide the Agency with a copy of the fire safety certificate and related documentation showing compliance with fire safety. A fire safety regularisation certificate dated 25 October 2024 was available. A fire certificate with conditions attached dated 15 April 2025 was granted by local fire authority and submitted to the Inspectorate on 15 April 2025 by the registered provider.

Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the children, registered provider, deputies and staff who were present on the days of the inspection.

Part II - Registration and Register

Regulation 8 - Notification of change in circumstances

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a temporary pre-school service shall, subject to paragraph (3), notify the Agency in writing of any proposed change in the details in relation to the pre-school service contained in the register pursuant to section 58C(2) of the Act or Regulation 7(2) at least 60 days before it is proposed that the change would take effect.

Compliance Information

(1) The service was found to be operating within its registered hours of operation and in accordance with the age range of children and type of service.

Non-Compliance Information

The service was found to be operating outside of its approved registration status, in relation to the number of preschool children that the service was authorised to accommodate. At the time of inspection, the setting was registered to cater for a maximum of 44 early years children at any one time, however 54 children were observed to be in attendance during the morning of 14 January 2025 and 50 children were present on the morning of 28 January 2025.

On 28 January 2025, a sample review of an additional 30 days during the months of October, November, December 2024 and January 2025, found that the number of children in attendance exceeded 44 on 25 of the 30 days reviewed. For example,

- On 15 January 2025, there were 61 children present
- On 23 October 2024, 7 November 2024 and 18 December 2024, 60 children had attended the service.

This non-compliance was also found at three previous inspections on 9 January 2024, 12 September 2023 and 28 September 2022. The service was escalated to the National Regulatory Enforcement Panel (NREP), as it had not adhered to the conditions of registration, as outlined above.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The corrective and preventive actions submitted by the registered provider did not address the issue of non-compliance.

Supporting documentation submitted

Various documents, including building drawings and information in relation to applications for a fire safety certificate.

Summary Comment

As no assurance has been provided that the service has reverted to operating within their registered numbers, this non-compliance has not been addressed. The issue remains with the National Regulatory Enforcement Panel (NREP), in accordance with Tusla's escalation policy for services operating outside their registration status.

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
- (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 person in charge of operating the service was the registered provider. Two other adults had been appointed as deputies.
 - (b) The registered provider was present for the duration of the inspection. Review of the staff roster indicated that either the registered provider or one of the named deputies were on duty during operational hours.
- (2) The registered provider advised that three adults had commenced employment at the service since the previous inspection on 24 January 2024. Recruitment records in respect of these three adults were therefore reviewed, along with the qualifications of all staff.
- (a) There were six written and validated references from past employers.
 - (b) None of the references on file were from sources other than previous employers.
 - (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for the three staff. It was also noted that Garda vetting, which had

expired since the previous inspection, had been renewed in respect of five staff members. This was in compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, which requires services to renew Garda vetting every three years. However, the required renewed vetting for a sixth staff member was unavailable.

Please refer to the information outlined under regulation 23 of this report.

(d) Police vetting was available for two of the three new staff members who had lived outside the State, as adults.

Employment history records in respect of the third adult indicated that police vetting was not required.

(4) There was evidence that 13 of the 15 staff members had attained a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education, or a qualification deemed to be equivalent. Two of the adults had obtained a Letter of Qualification Recognition.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 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) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-

(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times,

Compliance Information

(2) The required adult to child ratios were maintained throughout both days of inspection.

(8)

(a) Review of the current staff roster and observation on the days of inspection demonstrated that the service was operated with at least two adults present.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of the following information in relation to the service:

(i) details of staff rosters on a daily basis;

(h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;

Compliance Information

- (1)
- (i) There was a daily staff attendance book which detailed the time staff arrived and departed and included their lunch break times.
- (h) Daily child attendance records in relation to 32 dates, between October, November and December 2024 and January 2025, were requested for review and had been duly recorded.

Non-Compliance Information

- (1)
- (i) Only a generic staff roster was available, which did not provide the following information:
- The roster was not specifically dated to reflect the current week (13th to 17th January 2025). The registered provider stated that the staff work the same hours every week. However, the use of a generic roster does not allow for up-to-date information, for example, the reassigning of adults to care rooms, in the event that a staff member is absent.
 - The roster did not set out the daily staff/child ratio for each area of the service.
 - The roster did not include the names of the staff who relieved other staff members, at daily lunch time breaks.

These issues posed a risk that there may be an inadequate number of adults available to care for the children. The absence of an up-to-date roster may also cause difficulty in the event of a critical incident, such as a fire evacuation. Non-compliances in relation to the staff roster were also found at previous inspections on 9 January 2024 and 12 September 2023.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

In her response, the registered provider referred to the availability of a basic staff roster, a daily sign in book, that also includes planned leave and sick leave, a lunch rota and wall displays regarding staff in each room. It was stated that a roster is printed on a Friday for the following week and that this is discussed between the registered provider and the manager.

Supporting documentation submitted

A weekly staff roster, which outlined the start and finish times of all staff. A weekly roster for each of the three care rooms, which was noted to include details of cover for a previous staff absence and information regarding the adult child ratios. A partially completed lunch cover roster was also submitted.

Summary Comment

The updated records for documenting weekly staff rosters and break cover are accepted. However, continued completion of staff rosters is required to ensure compliance, therefore, this will be reviewed at the next inspection.

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)

Basic needs:

- The children's mealtimes were facilitated at regular intervals and as advised by the registered provider. For example, the mid-morning snack was accommodated at 10.31am in the Toddler room, a hot lunch meal was served in the ECCE 2 room at 1.00pm and the children from ECCE 1 had an afternoon snack at 3.24pm.
- During the observed snack time routine in ECCE 2, a calm and sociable atmosphere was evident; relaxing music played in the background and the children chatted freely with one another. Staff members were also noted to sit alongside the children.
- It was observed that the sleep room was in use for most of the inspection day, which reflected that staff facilitated children to sleep or rest when they were tired and not just at dedicated times.
- Cosy areas were incorporated into the care rooms, for any child who wished to rest or relax during the day.
- Staff members were observed to be kind, caring and reassuring in their interactions with the children. Low tones of voice were used and care routines such as nappy changing, were managed in a sensitive manner.

- Children from ECCE 1 and ECCE 2 were observed to access the outdoor areas on the day of inspection and appropriate clothing was worn, in line with the weather on the day.

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

General Safety:

- The main entrance gate was found to have been appropriately secured prior to the inspectors' unannounced arrival. A buzzer entry/intercom system was in place for visitors. This minimised the risk of unauthorised persons gaining access to the service.
- The fence around the outdoor play area was observed to be adequately secured.
- Cleaning sprays were stored out of reach of the children.
- There were no visible cables within reach of the children in the care rooms or in the sleep room, on the day of inspection.

Infection Control:

- Suitable handwashing facilities were available in the toilet facilities and in the nappy changing facilities; warm water, liquid soap and paper towels were in place.
- Handwashing by the children was observed before the lunch time meal in both the ECCE 1 and ECCE 2 rooms and after nappy changing, in the nappy changing area beside the reception.
- Within the nappy changing areas, there was individually labelled storage for the children's toiletries.
- It was noted that new, durable nappy changing mats had been purchased since the previous inspection and these mats were in use in the Toddler nappy changing room and in the nappy changing area beside the reception.
- Since the last inspection, the urinals were removed from the toilet facility in the outdoor container, which has since been allocated as the toilet facility for the ECCE 2 room. Toilet brushes in this area were stored out of children's reach, when not in use.
- Lidded, foot operated pedal bins were available in the care rooms and in the sanitary accommodation, for the hygienic disposal of contaminated materials.

- The children's lunch meals were refrigerated prior to consumption.
- Wall hook or shelf storage were in use for the children's coats and bags.
- The children's spare clothes were appropriately stored in individual bags on shelves, which were located at adult height.
- The positioning of the cots in the sleep room reduced the risk of cross infection; sufficient space was ensured in between each cot.
- All of the cots in use were provided with well fitting, waterproof mattresses.

Administration of Medication:

- Medication was not observed to be administered to any of the children present.
- The inspectors were also advised that none of the children were in receipt of medication.

Safe Sleep:

- At the time of inspection, one large sleep room was being utilised to accommodate the children from the Toddler and ECCE 1 room, who required sleep. There was an adequate number of standard cots and stackable beds available and these were used in accordance with children's ages and stages of development.
- The sleep room had recorded air temperature readings of between 18.5°C and 18.8°C, which were within the appropriate temperature range.
- Staff were observed to go into the sleep room to check on the children. Records showed that sleeping children were checked every 10 minutes, with their position, colour and breathing assessed and initialled by the supervising adult.
- The cots and stackable beds were all found to be in good condition.

Fire Safety:

- Fire exits doors were openable and fire exits were free from obstruction.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The Garda vetting disclosure available for one of the adults was not dated within the previous three years, in adherence to the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, 'EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'. The vetting was dated 23 October 2021.
2. A piece of equipment in the main outdoor play area had not been appropriately anchored, which increased the risk of injury to a child. The frame of the equipment, which featured a slide and hanging cushions, was moveable at the base and it was possible to lift the base up from the ground. It was

acknowledged that following the inspection, the registered provider submitted photographic evidence to demonstrate that this piece of equipment had been removed.

3. In the main outdoor play area, it was observed that the surfaces underneath the following equipment were sparsely resourced with bark chippings and required replenishing, in order to reduce the risk of injury to a child:
 - The red and green swing set
 - The round swing
 - The blue swing set (5 swings)
 - The red and blue swing set
4. In the children's toilet and nappy changing area beside the reception, children had access to an electric operated unit, located near the sink, with two pipes extending from the upper side. To reduce the potential safety risk to a child, children should not have access to this appliance.

Infection Control:

5. The children's perishable mid-morning snacks were not refrigerated at the service. This increased the risk of food spoilage and foodborne illness to a child. In the ECCE 2 room, the inspectors were advised by staff that the children's perishable foods remained in their bags up until the mid-morning snack. Examples of such foods were observed to include yogurts, cheese and ham sandwiches. During subsequent discussion with one of the inspectors, staff in ECCE 1 also confirmed that the children's perishable snacks had not been refrigerated.
6. In ECCE 2, children had access to cloth tea towels, which were stored at child height when not in use. This increased the risk of cross infection.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. The written response outlined that the registered provider has applied for updated Garda vetting. As a preventive measure, the registered provider stated they will endeavour to keep on top of paperwork.
2. The registered provider stated that risk assessments are carried out and that the equipment was for use by the ECCE 2 room children only. Supervision of children is ensured at all times, as risky play is facilitated. The equipment has been removed. Risk assessments will continue to be carried out, with a view to also facilitating risky play.

3. The response outlined that the bark chippings had been dislodged when the swings were in use and that the area was muddy after heavy rain fall. The bark chippings have been raked back into the area and rubber mats have also been added. As a preventive measure, it will be ensured that the bark chippings are raked back into place.
4. In her written reply, the registered provider stated that the water tank is set at safe temperature and that it has been covered with a new locked cupboard surround. Going forward, heaters will be covered.

Infection Control:

5. The corrective action advised that yogurts and perishable snacks are now stored in the fridge with children's dinners. The registered provider stated a larger fridge was acquired to accommodate snack foods.
6. The tea towels will be kept up on the counter, out of the children's reach. As a preventive measure, the registered provider has instructed staff to keep the tea towels out of the children's reach. It was also stated that all towels and dishcloths are laundered every day.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

1. No evidence was received.
2. Photographic evidence to demonstrate that the equipment has been removed.
3. Photographic evidence in relation to the various swing sets.
4. Photographic evidence of the covered water tank.

Infection Control:

5. No evidence was received.
6. The statement from the registered provider is accepted as evidence.

Summary Comment

Points 2, 3, 4 and 6 have been addressed. The updated Garda vetting disclosure, in point 1, and evidence in relation to point 5 were not received. Regulatory compliance has not been met in relation to these points. These will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 27 – Supervision

A registered provider shall ensure that pre-school children attending the service are supervised at all times.

Non-Compliance Information

In-room adult supervision was not provided in the sleep room, when one of the children was asleep on a stackable bed. At 1.31pm on 14 January 2025, it was observed that the sleep room was occupied by 3 children, including 1 child asleep on a stackable bed and there was no adult present. Without an adult present to ensure adequate supervision, there was a risk that the child on the stackable bed may have woken up and caused harm to themselves or to the other children in the room.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

In her written reply, the registered provider stated that a staff member now remains in the sleep room with the sleeping children.

Supporting documentation submitted

On 28 January 2025, the inspectors observed that a staff member remained in the sleep room to supervise the children.

Summary Comment

The corrective action implemented by the registered provider has addressed the non-compliance identified under Regulation 27.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

The available insurance certificate had an expiry date of 26 March 2025 and stated that the service was insured to provide full day care, for up to 65 children.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-

- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Compliance Information

- (c)
- On 14 January 2025, the three care rooms were adequately heated within the accepted range of 18°C to 22°C. The air temperature of the Toddler room was recorded at 19.6°C, the ECCE 1 room had recorded air temperature readings of between 18.2°C and 18.5°C and the ECCE 2 room was recorded at 18°C. Air temperatures in the following sanitary areas were observed to be within the required range, at the times stated:
- The children’s toilet facility allocated for ECCE 2 had a recorded air temperature reading of 18°C, at 12.30pm and was recorded at 18.4°C at 3.00pm.
 - The air temperature in the Toddler nappy changing room was checked at midday and had a reading of 19°C. A later reading of 18.6°C was taken at 2.29pm. It was observed that, in order to maintain the air temperature within the normal range, the heating system in place had to be turned on.
- (d) The care rooms and sanitary areas appeared clean.
- (e) There was an adequate number of children’s toilets and nappy changing facilities and adult toilet facilities available, on the day of inspection. There were five designated toilets, three nappy changing stations and seven sinks provided for the children. There were two adult toilet facilities in the service.

Non-Compliance Information

- (c)
1. Two of the sanitary areas were found to be inadequately heated, when the inspectors conducted the initial walk through of the service on 14 January 2025.
 - At 10.20am, the air temperature of the Toddler nappy changing room was recorded at 17.6°C.
 - At 10.54am, the children’s toilet facility allocated for the ECCE 2 room had a recorded air temperature of 13.6°C.
 - At 1.00pm on 28 January 2025, the air temperature of the Toddler nappy changing room was recorded at 16.8°C.
 - The ECCE 2 toilet facility had a temperature reading of 14.4°C, at 1.10pm on 28 January.

These temperatures fell outside the recommended range of 18°C to 22°C. Low temperatures pose a risk of

the children becoming cold. This issue was also found at the previous inspection on 9 January 2024.

2. There was a persistent malodour in the children's toilet, beside the ECCE 2 room. The staff stated that the odour was only present since the service reopened the previous week, after a three week break. This may pose a risk of inadequate ventilation.

(d)

3. The tap at one of the sinks in the children's toilet facility, beside ECCE 2, was not adequately secured to the sink and required repair or replacement. This posed a risk of a finger trapping injury to a child.
4. In the Toddler nappy changing area, a roll of disposable paper towelling, which was used for hand drying, was not hygienically stored, which posed a risk of cross infection. It was acknowledged that following the inspection, the registered provider forwarded photographic evidence to demonstrate that a wall mounted paper towel dispenser had been installed in this nappy changing area.
5. There was a ceiling tile missing in one of the adult toilet facilities. The registered provider stated that there was a recent water leak in this area, which if not addressed, may lead to further structural damage.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(c)

1. The response from the registered provider outlined that thermometers have been added to each room and that staff have been instructed to monitor the temperature. Staff have also been reminded to close the windows in the nappy changing room if this area becomes cold. A new heater has been fitted in the Toddler nappy changing room. The registered provider is looking into having a second door or a lobby added to the ECCE 2 toilet facility, to prevent the area becoming cold when the outside door is opened.
2. The written reply stated that the usual daily cleaning on the 14 January 2025 removed the odour. As a preventive measure, daily cleaning will continue and staff will report any odour immediately.

(d)

3. The registered provider stated that the loose tap has been tightened. Staff will continue to ensure checks and will report if any maintenance is required.
4. In her written reply, the registered provider stated that the roll of towelling was for the purpose of cleaning the changing mats after each nappy change and that a paper towel dispenser was available in the lobby area. This paper towel dispenser has been moved into the nappy changing area, closer to the sink.

5. The registered provider stated that the tile had been removed to access a pipe and that the leak had been fixed prior to the inspection. A new tile has been purchased and painted. Maintenance and repairs are carried out as needed.

Supporting documentation submitted

(c)

1. A photograph of an air thermometer indicating a temperature of 18°C.
2. The statement is accepted as evidence.

(d)

3. During the inspection on 28 January 2025, the tap was noted to have been repaired.
4. Photographic evidence was received.
5. No evidence was received in relation to the new ceiling tile.

Summary Comment

Following review of the information forwarded by the registered provider, points 2, 3 and 4 have been addressed. The issue of low air temperatures in the sanitary facilities and that of the ceiling tile remain outstanding. While evidence was submitted in relation to the former, the inspectors were unable to determine the location of the thermometer from the photograph submitted and the additional evidence requested by the inspectors was not provided. These will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 30 - Minimum space requirements

(2) A registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that the minimum amount of clear floor space specified in column (3) of Schedule 7 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Schedule in respect of the age range of children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is available for each child in that age range attending the service.

Compliance Information

(2) The three care rooms were measured and there was adequate clear floor space for the number of children present on both days of inspection.