

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015CC416
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	The Old School House
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Gogginstown, Knockraha Village, Co Cork
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<b>Eircode:</b>	T56 W085
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Deirdre O'Sullivan
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<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Dates of Inspection:</b>	13/10/2025
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<b>Date 2 of Inspection:</b>	22/10/2025
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	60	PM	35
<b>Day 2</b>	AM	62	PM	45

<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Tusla Early Years Inspectorate, 13 Market Square, Mallow, Co Cork, P51 DD5Y
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<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	N O'Donoghue & S O'Brien
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<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspectors
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### 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>	N/A
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### Description of service

The Old School House is a private full day care service. It is registered to operate from 8.00am to 6.00pm daily. It currently operates from 8.00am to 5.30pm. The service offers the Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE), full day care and school age care. It is registered to cater for children aged 0 - 6 years and is currently offering care to children aged 1 - 6 years.

The service operates from a converted school building in a rural area, adjacent to a primary school. The service has two playrooms and two sleep rooms downstairs and two playrooms upstairs. There is one additional room with extra equipment and materials available upstairs which the Junior Preschool access. It also has outdoor areas to the rear and side of the building. The service is also registered as a multiple service and to operate as a school age service.

### Staffing

The service employs 16 adults, including the registered provider. The registered provider is not based in the service. Two students on work placement were also present on the days of inspection.

### 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 regulations 9, 10, 11, 19, 20, 22, 23, and 25 however, on inspection additional non-compliance which posed a risk was identified under Regulation 27 and 29. These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations 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 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.

### Additional Information

On 13 October 2025, an Immediate Action Notice was issued to the registered provider under Regulation 9: Management and recruitment. An adult who had access to the children did not have a Garda vetting disclosure available to review posing a safety risk to the children.

On 14 October 2025, the registered provider submitted a Garda vetting disclosure in respect of the adult.

On 22 October 2025, an Immediate Action Notice was issued to the registered provider under Regulation 23: Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of the children. A surface temperature on a radiator in the care room was recorded at 54.6°C posing a burn risk to the children.

On 23 October 2025, the registered provider outlined the steps taken to mitigate the risk.

On 15 December 2025, a regulatory compliance meeting was held with the registered provider in order to clarify the non-compliances found on inspection that were not addressed via the corrective action and preventive action process. Further information can be found under the relevant regulations.

### Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, 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.*

*(3) The procedures specified in paragraph (2) shall be carried out prior to any person being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.*

*(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) There was a designated person in charge and a named person available in the service if required.
- (b) The designated person in charge and the named deputy was on the premises throughout the time of the inspection.
- (c) There was a clear management structure in place in the service, and the adults were aware of their roles and responsibilities.
- (2) Eighteen recruitment files were reviewed including the registered provider and student files.
- (a) Twenty of the references available were from a past employer and were validated.
- (b) Eleven of the references available were from a reputable source and were validated.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for 17 staff. However, the service did not adhere to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years. Please refer to the information outlined under Regulation 23 of this report.
- (d) Police vetting was not required for 15 of the adults as they had not lived outside of a state for longer than six consecutive months.
- (4) Fifteen of the adults working directly with the children held a relevant qualification in Early Childhood Care and Education from level 5 to level 8 or a qualification deemed equivalent by the Minister. The remaining adults did not require a qualification as two adults were students on work placement and one adult worked with the school age children only.

### Non-Compliance Information

- (2)
- (a)(b)
- Five references were not available in respect of three adults working in the service. This was a previous non-compliance found during inspection on 16 April 2024.
- (c) On 13 October 2025, an Immediate Action Notice was issued to the registered provider in respect of one adult as no Garda vetting disclosure was available to review. This posed a safety risk to the children in the service. This was at variance with the service recruitment policy. On 14 October 2024, an adequate response was received from the registered provider. A Garda vetting disclosure was submitted to the inspectorate.
- (d)

It could not be determined if police vetting was required for four adults working in the service. A curriculum vitae was not available in respect of two adults and gaps were identified in respect of two adults curriculum vitae.

(3)

The registered provider did not carry out the procedures specified above prior to the adults being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with the children in the service in respect of six adults. This posed a possible risk to the children's wellbeing.

### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

(2) (a)(b) The registered provider outlined that the references and validations had been forwarded to the Early Years Inspectorate. All staff including work experience staff will have references on file as well as validations prior to commencing work at the service.

(2) (c) A Garda vetting disclosure was submitted to the inspectorate on 14 October 2025, in respect of the staff member. The registered provider will ensure garda vetting is on file before staff commence working in the service.

(2) (d) It was outlined that police vetting was not required for any staff member and any curriculum vitae with gaps have since been filled in and kept on file. The registered provider will ensure that no gaps will be left in staff files for future reference.

(3) The registered provider outlined that not having these checks carried out was an oversight. This response was not accepted. This was outlined to the registered provider at the regulatory compliance meeting. It was also outlined that the registered provider was required to complete Garda vetting applications in respect of two staff, as the Garda vetting disclosures that were available had not been carried out by the service. The registered provider has submitted the Garda vetting disclosures in respect of the two staff members.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

(2) (a)(b) Copies of the references and validations were received by the Early Years Inspectorate.

(2) (c) A copy of the Garda vetting disclosure was forwarded to the Early Years Inspectorate.

(2) (d) The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.

(3) Evidence of Garda Vetting applications in relation to the two staff members was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.

### Summary Comment

The registered providers response and documented evidence was reviewed by the inspectors. The non-compliances under Regulation 9 have been rectified. This will be reviewed on the next inspection of the service.

### Part III – Management and Staff

#### Regulation 10 - Policies, procedures etc. of pre-school service

*A registered provider of a pre-school service shall ensure that the written policies, procedures and statements specified in Schedule 5 are in place for the service.*

#### Compliance Information

The following policies were reviewed:

- Infection control policy
- Administration of medication policy
- Healthy eating policy
- Recruitment policy
- Staff training policy

The policies reviewed were observed to contain the relevant information to guide the adults in their care practices.

### 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.*

*(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

(1) The registered provider ensured that there were an adequate number of adults available to the children.

(2) The adult to child ratios were identified as follows:

#### Day 1

- In the Wobbler room in the morning, there were two staff working with nine children aged between 1 and 2 years, all attending full day care. In addition to this, one student was present on the day. In the afternoon, both the Wobbler and Toddler rooms were mixed, there were 3 adults working with 15 children aged between 1 year to 2 years and 8 months. There were three children observed to be sleeping in the afternoon.
- In the Toddler room in the morning, there were 2 staff working with 11 children aged between 1 year and 7 months to 2 years and 8 months, all attending full day care. In addition to this, one student was present on the day.
- In the Junior Preschool room in the morning, there were 3 staff working with 18 children aged between 2 years and 10 months to 3 years and 8 months. In the afternoon, both the Junior preschool and Senior preschool rooms were mixed, there were 3 adults working 17 children aged between 2 years and 10 months to 4 years and 9 months.
- In the Senior Preschool room in the morning, there were 2 staff working with 22 children aged between 3 years and 10 months to 4 years and 9 months.

### Day 2

- In the Toddler room in the morning, there were 2 staff working with 11 children aged between 1 year and 7 months to 2 years and 8 months, all attending full day care. In the afternoon, both the Wobbler and Toddler rooms were mixed, there were 2 adults working 11 children aged between 1 year to 2 years and 8 months. There were 10 children observed to be sleeping in the afternoon.
- In the Junior Preschool room in the morning, there were 2 staff working with 18 children aged between 2 years and 10 months to 3 years and 8 months. In the afternoon, both the Junior preschool and Senior preschool rooms were mixed, there were 3 adults working with 24 children aged between 3 years to 4 years and 6 months.
- In the Senior Preschool room in the morning, there were 3 staff working with 22 children aged between 3 years and 10 months to 4 years and 9 months.

### Non-Compliance Information

(2) The adult child ratio was not adhered to during the morning on day 2 of inspection in the Wobbler room on 22 October 2025. The adult to child ratios were identified as follows:

- In the Wobbler room in the morning on 22 October 2025, 2 staff members were working directly with 11 children aged 1 year to 2 years. These ratios were observed in the Wobbler room from 09.15am to 09.59am. Three staff members were required to meet the minimum adult child ratio.

(8) The inspectors were unable to determine if two adults were present on the premises at all times on 13 October 2025. Staff sign in records and the staff rota given to the inspectors did not document start times or finish times for the staff present on the day.

### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

(2) The registered provider stated that staff were informed of the staff ratios and requirements following the inspection.

(8) The registered provider updated the staff rota with start times and finish times. The staff rota will clearly show start and finish times for each staff member.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

(2) The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.

(8) Photographic evidence of the staff rota was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.

### Summary Comment

The registered providers response and documented evidence was reviewed by the inspectors. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 11 have been adequately addressed. This will be reviewed on the next inspection of the service.

## 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) On the day of inspection, the following information was obtained through:

- Direct observation and discussion with staff
- Examination of relevant documentation.

## Basic needs:

- Children had access to their individual water bottles throughout both days of inspection.
- The children were observed to freely move around the care rooms and outdoor areas. All children had access to the outdoor areas throughout the inspection.
- Staff were observed supporting children with toileting when needed. Nappy changes were carried out at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Staff were observed sitting on the floor with the children in the Wobbler room, singing songs and playing blocks.
- During nappy changing, staff engaged in singing nursery rhymes and conversations with the children.
- There was a supply of tissues available to the children and staff supported children cleaning their noses when required.
- The staff assisted in feeding the children in the Wobbler room and supported the children who could feed themselves.
- Children’s hygiene needs were attended to regularly and staff were observed cleaning children’s faces after mealtimes or as required throughout the day.
- Individual care plans were available for the children who required them. Staff were aware of the needs of the children. The service had adapted equipment available to ensure the inclusivity of all children.

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

### Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

- (1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-
- (a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and
  - (b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.

### Compliance Information

(1)(a)

- Each care room had open shelving units where children had access to a variety of play equipment and materials. These included puzzles, cars, dolls, magnets, shapes and blocks. There was also distinctive play areas identified around these rooms including play kitchen unit, a construction table and unit for toy cars.
- The outdoor area was accessible through the Toddler room and through the Wobbler dining room, with access to bikes, scooters, balls, slides, sensory activities including a mud kitchen and sand-play table.

(b) The sleep room facilities were adequate and suitable for the needs of the children who required sleep.

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

#### Regulation 22 – Food and drink

*A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.*

### Compliance Information

- The snacks and meals were provided by parents/guardians of children attending the service. Perishable foods were stored in refrigerators around the service. Snacks and meals were served at appropriate times throughout the day.
- In the Toddler room, staff were observed having alternative snacks for children who required them on day 2 of inspection.

### Non-Compliance Information

It was identified on day 1 of inspection that one child was served reheated spaghetti hoops as their main meal. This was not a suitable or substantial meal for a child attending full day care. A child attending full day care requires a well-balanced and nutritious meal. This was identified on previous inspection on 16 April 2024.

### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

All parents were made aware of the healthy eating policy in the service on the service mobile application.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.

### Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 22 has been adequately addressed.

### 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:

- External doors were secured to prevent unauthorised entry of an adult or the unsupervised exit of a child.
- The staircases were adequately lit, fitted with suitable handrails and in good condition.

##### Infection control:

- Windows were opened for natural air ventilation.
- Staff were observed cleaning tables between activities and prior to mealtimes.
- Cots were fitted with waterproof mattresses and placed 50cm apart.

##### Administration of medication:

- Staff in the Toddler room was observed administering medication on day 2 of inspection. On discussion with the staff, they outlined the procedures in place. The staff were observed following the procedure.

##### Safe sleep:

- Adults were observed conducting physical checks on sleeping children every 10 minutes in the Wobbler sleep room and were observed to record these on the online application.
- Temperatures in the designated sleep rooms were within the required range of 18 to 22 °C, measuring 18.8 and 20.1°C respectively.

##### Fire safety:

- Fire exits were clear of any obstruction and were clearly identified in the room.
- Fire equipment was available in the event they were required.

#### Non-Compliance Information

##### General safety:

1. On 22 October 2025, an Immediate Action Notice was issued to the registered provider. A surface temperature on a radiator in the dining room of the Toddler room was recorded at 54.6°C. This posed a burn risk to the children. It is acknowledged that when the inspector brought this to the attention of the adults in the care room, the radiator was turned off.  
On 23 October 2025, an adequate response was received from the registered provider. The registered provider outlined in their response that the radiator was electric and has been readjusted to 17°C.
2. Garda vetting was available for five adults. However, these vetting disclosures were not dated within the previous three years in adherence to with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice 'EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'. This was also at variance with the services recruitment policy. This was found as a previous non-compliance found on last inspection on 16 April 2024.
3. Water temperatures recorded on both days of inspections in the children's nappy changing facility exceeded 43°C. The sink was measured at 44.8°C on day 1 and 46.4°C on day 2. Temperatures exceeding 43°C posed a risk of scalding to children using the sink.
4. A sharp knife was found in a cabinet that children had access to in the Toddler Room. This posed a safety risk to the children. It is acknowledged that when the inspector brought this to the attention of an adult the cabinet was secured with a lock.
5. There were chairs stacked high in the Toddler room on day 1. Children were observed playing around the stacked chairs. This posed a risk of injury to children around the room.
6. In the Toddler room, an extension lead was observed to be freely hanging from the wall. This was not securely fastened out of reach of children. This posed a safety risk to children in the Toddler room.
7. In the Toddler room, the side of the counter was observed loose and sticking out. This was observed to be a pinch point and posed a risk of injury to children in the room.
8. On Day 1 of inspection, children in the Wobbler dining room were observed by the inspector not to be safely strapped into their highchairs for a period of 27 minutes. Children not being strapped into highchairs posed a safety risk to children.
9. The small slide in the outdoor area was broken and had a large crack. Children were observed playing on this slide on both days of inspections. This was a pinch point and posed a risk of injury to children using the slide.
10. The seesaw and a ride on car in the outdoor area were cracked and had sharp edges. This posed a risk of injury to children.

11. A roof window in the sensory room upstairs in the service was easily accessible to children by a bench and a chair. This posed a risk of children climbing up and exiting or falling.
12. An electric heater was stored in a cabinet unit in the Junior Preschool room, which was easily accessible to the children. This posed a risk of strangulation to the children.
13. Medication that had expired was found in the fridge in the Junior Preschool room. This posed a risk to the children. This was at variance with the services administration of medication policy.
14. On day 1 of inspection in the Junior Preschool room, it was observed that adult's personal belongings were stored on a child height shelf in the care room. This posed a safety risk to the children.
15. The astro grass observed in the outdoor area was lifting and children were seen tripping over. This posed a risk of injury to children in the outdoor area.
16. The heavy press in the Wobbler room was not securely anchored. Children were observed playing around this press and posed a risk of injury to the child.
17. Children in the Toddler room were observed mouthing toys that were not age appropriate. The inspector informed the staff on two occasions of a child with materials in their mouth. This posed a risk of choking to the child.

### Infection control:

18. The couch in the hallway upstairs was observed to be torn and would be difficult to clean effectively. This posed a risk of cross contamination to children.
19. Staff were observed in the Wobbler dining room on day 1 of inspection, not wiping down highchairs after the tabletop fell on the floor. This posed a risk of infection to the children. On the morning of day 2 of inspection, the highchairs in the Wobbler dining room were not cleaned. Old residue had remained on the tables of the highchairs. This posed a risk of infection to the children.
20. While the inspector was observing nappy changing in the Toddler Room on day 1 of inspection, it was observed that a child did not wash their hands after the nappy change. It was observed that the staff member did not wash their hands between changing gloves. The staff member did not change their apron between individual nappy changes. This posed a risk of cross infection to the children. This practice was at variance with the services infection control policy.
21. The sponge matting in the Wobbler room was observed to be torn and peeling. This did not allow for effective cleaning and posed a risk of cross infection.

### Safe sleep:

22. Two children under the age of 2 years were observed to be sleeping on stackable beds in the Toddler sleep area. This is not in line with Tusla safe sleep guidance document. Children under the age of 2 years are not permitted to sleep on stackable beds. The registered provider was made aware of this and redirected to the safe sleep guidance. The registered provider stated they usually have floor beds available for children under 2 years of age. Staff were asked if sleep plans or risk assessments were conducted and available for these children and none were available to the inspectors. This poses a safety risk to children using these beds without a risk assessment being completed.
23. On day 1 of inspection, 7 children from the Toddler room observed to be sleeping on stackable beds in the Wobbler room and were left unsupervised. It is acknowledged that an adult checked these sleeping children every 10 minutes, however, adult supervision was not constant as required. Not supervising children on stackable beds at all times posed a safety risk to children in the room. This was identified on previous inspection on 16 April 2024.

### Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### Corrective & Preventive Action

##### General safety:

1. The registered provider promptly addressed the temperature of the radiator. The registered provider has stated that the electric radiator is to remain at 17°C.
2. Garda Vetting disclosures were received for five staff. The registered provider will ensure that all garda vetting will remain up to date.
3. The registered provider corrected the water temperatures in the children's nappy changing facility to not exceed 43°C. Water temperatures to remain below 43°C throughout the service.
4. The adult member securely locked the cabinet to prevent children accessing sharp utensils. The registered provider stated that no sharp objects will be left at children's level.
5. The stacked chairs were removed from the Toddler room. This will be monitored going forward.
6. The extension lead was securely fastened to the wall out of reach of children.
7. The side of the counter was fixed to remove pinch point. The registered provider stated the work top will not have an edge to prevent this reoccurring in the future.
8. The registered provider advised that all children are to be strapped in immediately and children are to be supervised at all times.

9. The slide was removed from the outdoor area, and the registered provider will ensure regular checks will be conducted throughout the service to prevent risk of injury.
10. Broken toys were removed from the outdoor area, and the registered provider will ensure regular checks will be conducted throughout the service.
11. The roof window was closed, and the staff will ensure this will remain closed.
12. The electric heater was removed from the room. Staff were made aware that the heater is not to remain in the room.
13. The out-of-date medication was removed from the service.
14. Staff were reminded by the registered provider that staff belongings are to be stored in the staff room on the premises.
15. The astro grass in the outdoor area was fixed and regular checks will be conducted to ensure the area is safe.
16. The heavy press was securely fastened to the wall. The registered provider stated that all storage units will be fixed to the wall securely.
17. The toys that were not age appropriate were removed from the room.

**Infection control:**

18. The registered provider stated that the couch would be reupholstered over the Christmas period. This will be reviewed on next inspection.
19. The registered provider stated that all highchairs have been thoroughly cleaned and all staff were reminded on the importance of hygiene throughout the service.
20. Staff have been reminded of the importance of hygiene and reminded of importance of handwashing and correct nappy changing procedures.
21. The registered provider stated the torn sponge matting was removed from the Wobbler room. No torn matting will remain on the premises.

**Safe sleep:**

22. The registered provider stated that floor beds were readily available for children under 2 years of age. It was an oversight by staff not to use the floor beds on day of inspection. Floor beds will be made available to children under 2 years of age going forward.
23. The registered provider made staff aware that children sleeping on stackable beds are to be supervised at all times.

### Supporting documentation submitted

#### **General safety:**

1. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
2. Garda Vetting disclosures for the five adults was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.
3. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
4. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
5. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
6. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
7. Photographic evidence was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.
8. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
9. Photographic evidence of the outdoor area was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.
10. Photographic evidence of the outdoor area was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.
11. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
12. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
13. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
14. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
15. Photographic evidence of the outdoor area was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.
16. Photographic evidence was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.
17. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.

#### **Infection control:**

18. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
19. Photographic evidence of the cleaned highchairs was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.
20. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
21. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate. This will be reviewed on next inspection.

#### **Safe sleep:**

22. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.
23. The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.

### **Summary Comment**

The registered providers responses and documented evidence was reviewed by the inspectors. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 23 have been adequately addressed.

## 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) Two staff members held a current certification in First Aid Response training (FAR). On review of the staff roster available for day 2 of inspection, at least one staff member was trained in First Aid Responder and were present while the service was in operation.

- (2)
- (a) The first aid kit was stored up high, out of reach of children and clearly identified in each room.
- (b) The first aid kit was inspected and was suitably stocked for the number of children attending the service. These were available for staff to attend to the children if required.

### Non-Compliance Information

(1) On review of the staff roster available for day 1 of inspection, it could not be determined if a staff member that was trained in First Aid Response was present while the service was in operation. It is acknowledged that three staff members held a current certification in paediatric first aid training and were present in the service during day 1 of inspection. This posed a risk to the children in the event of a medical emergency occurring.

### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

The registered provider stated that two staff with First Aid Response training are available. One of these staff members will be available at all times on the premises going forward.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

Copies of the certificates were forwarded to the Early Years Inspectorate.

### Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 25 (1) has been adequately addressed.

### 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

It was observed on both days of inspection that supervision of children at all times by staff was not adequate.

- Children were observed to enter the toddler dining room unsupervised by adults.
- During handwashing in the Toddler room on day 2 of inspection, it was observed that all the children were in the sanitary area with one adult supporting the children. Two children were observed washing their hands and then touching unclean surfaces such as the toilet seat. The children were then asked to go to the dining room. The inspector informed the room leader, that these children required their hands to be washed before their meal.
- It was observed by the inspector that a child fell in the outdoor area, staff were not adequately supervising and were unaware that the child was upset.
- One child was observed to be putting dirt in their mouths in the outdoor area. The inspector had to inform the staff member who then cleaned the child's mouth.

Not ensuring adequate supervision by sight and sound put the children in risk of injury or harm.

#### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

##### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

The registered provider reviewed the non-compliances under supervision and has reminded the staff the importance of supervision of children. Full supervision by staff at all times will be adhered to both indoors and outdoors going forward.

##### **Supporting documentation submitted**

The registered provider's statement was accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate.

#### Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 27 has been adequately addressed.

### Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

#### Regulation 29 - Premises

*A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-*  
*(d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*

## Non-Compliance Information

(d) It was observed through both days of inspection that premises needed repairs. The following were identified:

- A plug in the hallway downstairs was broken, and electrical cables were accessible behind the plug.
- A radiator was not fixed to the wall; it was observed to be hanging off the wall and loose.
- One light fixture in the Junior Preschool room was broken and hanging from the ceiling. The light was in use however not secured to the ceiling.
- A mirror was not secured to the wall correctly in the Junior Preschool room.

## Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

### Corrective and Preventive Action

The registered provider corrected the following issues identified on inspection.

- The plug in the hallway was fixed.
- The radiator was fixed to the wall.
- The light fixture in the Junior Preschool room was fixed.
- The mirror in the Junior Preschool room was fixed to the wall.

The registered provider stated that all fixtures and fittings are to be securely fixed to the walls at all times.

### Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence of all the fixtures and fittings was received by the Early Years Inspectorate.

## Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 29 (d) have been adequately addressed.