

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report


Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015CW006				
Name of Service:	Ballon Rathoe Community Childcare Facility LTD				
Address of Service:	Ballon Childcare Facility, Ballon, Co. Carlow				
Eircode:	R93 A9DO				
Name of Registered Provider:	Michael O'Toole				
Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional				
Date of Inspection:	30/07/2024				
Date of regulatory compliance meeting	4 October 2024				
No of pre-school children:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>AM</td> <td>67</td> <td>PM</td> <td>61</td> </tr> </table>	AM	67	PM	61
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla Child and Family Agency, Athy Road, Carlow.
Inspection undertaken by:	Norma Thornton, Colette Ryan.
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	Not applicable.
	Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 QMS Ref: EYI-RRT12.1 V2.0 03/03/2023 Service ID: TU2015CW006
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Description of service

Ballon Rathoe Community Childcare Facility Limited is a registered full day care service located in the village of Ballon in northeast county Carlow. The service operates from a purpose-built premises providing sessional, part-time and full day care for children from 0 to 6 years of age. The service also provides a registered school age service.

There are five preschool classrooms provided in the main building of the service, two designated sleep rooms, a catering kitchen with adjacent dining room. There is a soft surface play area to the front of the building, four additional play areas and an all-weather half size, pitch at the back of the service.

An additional wooden purpose-built building to the side of the main building provides two additional classrooms.

Staffing

There were 36 staff employed in the service which included two kitchen staff. The registered provider does not work directly with the children in the service. All staff employed in the service to work directly with the children held qualifications in early childhood care and education ranging from Level 5 to Level 8 on the national Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) framework.

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:

Regulation 9 Management and Recruitment (1) (2) (a) (b) (c) (d) (4),

Regulation 11 Staffing levels (1) (2),

Regulation 15 Record of a preschool child,

Regulation 17 Information for parents,

Regulation 21 Equipment and materials,

Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety, and Welfare of the Child,

Regulation 25 First aid (1) (2) (a) (b),

Regulation 26 Fire Safety (1) (a) (b) (4) and

Regulation 28 Insurance.

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

An immediate action notice was issued to the registered provider on the 30 July 2024 regarding non-compliances identified under regulation 23 Safe Sleep. An adequate response was received from the designated person in charge on the 31/07/2024. A regulatory compliance meeting took place on the 04 October 2024 to address outstanding non-compliances found on inspection that were not adequately addressed during the Corrective Action and Preventive Action (CAPA) process.

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

(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)(b)

On the day of the inspection the manager was the designated people in charge of the service. There is a named deputy designated person available as required.

(2)(a)(b)

Thirty-six staff files were reviewed on the day:

There were validated references for all employees kept in each staff member's file.

(c)
Garda vetting disclosures were available for all staff working in the service. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to re-new Garda vetting every three years.

- (d)
Police vetting disclosures were maintained on file for staff who had worked or lived outside the state for more than six consecutive months.
- (4)
Certificates of qualifications for all staff members working directly with the preschool children were available on file.

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.*

Compliance Information

- (2) The required minimum adult child ratios were maintained during the following times:
- The Baby Room:** There were 2 infants aged <1 year and 5 infants aged between 1 to 2 years being directly cared for by 3 staff members, for a full day care service.
- The Wobbler Room:** In the morning there were 13 children aged 1 to 2 years directly cared for by 3 staff members.
In the afternoon from 12:30 hours there were 11 children aged 1 to 2 years directly cared for by 3 staff members.
From 15:15 hours there were 10 children aged 1 to 2 years directly cared for by 3 staff members.
- The Toddler Room:** In the morning there were 16 children aged 2 to 3 years directly cared for by 3 staff members.
In the afternoon there were 15 children aged 2 to 3 years directly cared for by 3 staff members.
- Playschool 1:** There were 17 children aged 3 to 6 years of age directly cared for by 3 staff members and in the evening 16 children were directly cared for by 2 staff members.
- Playschool 2:** In the morning there were 14 children aged 3 to 4 years directly cared for by 3 staff members and in the afternoon, there were 13 children directly cared for by 3 staff members.
- Preschool 2** was not in operation on the day of inspection.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) The inspector observed that there were inadequate staffing levels in place at points during the day as demonstrated under 11(2).

11 (2) The minimum adult child ratios were not adhered to in parts of the service on the day of inspection as evidenced by the following observations.

1. On the initial walk through of the service at 10:00 hours, the inspectors observed that in **Preschool 1**, there were 20 children aged 4 to 5 years of age being directly supervised by 2 staff members.

The adult to child ratio of 1:8 for children aged 3 to 6 years of age was not maintained at this time. It is acknowledged that subsequently a third staff member was brought from the school aged service to maintain adult to child ratios. This was not reflected on the staff roster.

The inspector observed that the timing of staff breaks compromised the minimum adult: child ratios in parts of the service.

On review of staff timecards and in discussion with staff, the inspector observed that staff were instructed to take their half hour lunch break, in turn, at the following times, 12:45 hours, 13:00 hours and 13:15 hours.

It was observed by the inspector that by taking lunch breaks at these times, the adult to child ratio was not maintained for 15 to 30 minutes during this time, depending on the number of children in attendance on the said day, as observed below on two occasions during the inspection:

1. In the **Toddler room**, during the staff lunch time, the inspector observed that there was two staff members directly supervising 15 children (5 in cots in the sleep room and 10 in the classroom) aged 2 to 3 years for a period of 15 minutes while the other staff member went on lunch break.

2.. In the **Wobbler room** at 12:50 hours, when 2 staff members had gone to lunch, the inspector observed that there were 2 staff members with 11 children, 1 under 1 year and 10 aged 1to 2 years. Three staff were required to meet the minimum staffing ratio.

That staff roster did not clearly demonstrate how staff breaks were covered to maintain adult to child ratios in each classroom.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The designated person in charge submitted the following corrective and preventive actions:

Management and Staff

If movement of staff is required during the day this will be reflected on the staff roster.

Lunch breaks will now start at 12:45, 13:15, 13:45. Two afterschool staff will take their break after 14:00, this allows them to cover lunch breaks from 12:45 to 14:15. They are not required in afterschool until 14:50 hours.

One staff member who works mornings will remain until 14:15 hours.

Supporting documentation submitted

Copy of proposed relief cover in each classroom for breaks and lunches.

Summary Comment

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next inspection.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 15 – Record of pre-school child

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a pre-school service in a drop-in centre or a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a record in writing is kept in respect of each pre-school child attending the service containing the following particulars:

- (a) the name and date of birth of the child;*
- (b) the date on which the child first attended the service;*
- (c) the date on which the child ceased to attend the service;*
- (d) the name and address of a parent or guardian of the child and a telephone number where that parent or guardian or a relative or friend of the child can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service;*
- (e) authorisation for the collection of the child;*
- (f) details of any illness, disability, allergy or special need of the child, together with all the information relevant to the provision of special care or attention;*
- (g) the name and telephone number of the child's registered medical practitioner;*
- (h) record of immunisations, if any, received by the child;*
- (i) written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency.*

Compliance Information

There was a registration form available in respect of each child enrolled in the service. A sample of 12 forms completed by the parents were reviewed as part of the inspection process and were found to contain all the information required under parts (a) – (i) of this regulation.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 17 – Information for parents

A registered provider shall ensure that a parent or guardian of a child proposing to attend the service is provided with the information referred to in subparagraphs (a) to (g) of Regulation 16(1).

Compliance Information

The service provides the parents with a parent handbook which includes the services policies. The handbook outlines to parents the curriculum, the hours of operation, the funding schemes available, contact details and the facilities available within the service. It provides parents with information on the day-to-day requirements and running of the service: healthy eating, medication management, behaviour management, complaints, fire safety and first aid.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 21 – Equipment and materials

A registered provider shall ensure that there is adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment and materials available on the premises of the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

In each of the classrooms, adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment was observed. The inspectors observed that each classroom contained age-appropriate equipment and had developed identifiable areas of interest, which had been well resourced with appropriate resources and play materials to create inviting physical environments for the children in attendance.

The outdoor play areas provided a variety of different surfaced sections so that all the classrooms had ease of access to the outdoor play daily.

Secure well-maintained equipment was provided for children to climb on, crawl through, swing, slide and ride on.

Sensory areas and outdoor kitchens provided children with opportunities for messy play and imaginary play.

An all-weather grass pitch on the upper level provided the opportunity for ball games and for physical exercise games, led by the staff.

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 inspector observed that children bought their morning and evening snacks and meal from home. The main meal was provided and cooked onsite in the service.

A three- week menu plan was in place offering a daily hot meal, which included a selection of pasta, casserole, curry and fish dishes and a selection of desserts, which included fruit salad, scones, custard, apple crumble and ice- cream. which was served in the dining room for the older children. The younger children in the wobbler and baby rooms ate in their rooms in highchairs or at a round low-level table with appropriate child sized seating.

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 service was secured with a keypad call system at the main entrance gate and at the main entrance door. The service was surrounded with high metal fencing at the front and right-hand side. The left-hand side and back of the building were secured with high cement walls and high metal fencing.

Both Playschool rooms located in the newly installed wooden cabin were secure with a keypad call system at the low-level entrance gate which could clearly be observed by staff from inside the cabin and by a subsequent keypad system at the main door.

This prevented any unauthorised person from entering the premises and prevented any child from exiting the service unsupervised.

Infection Control:

The service had an adequate infection control policy in place. A separate handwashing, nappy changing policy and toileting policy were attached as part of the service's Infection Control policy.

Hand washing was observed to be carried out by both staff and the children, prior to snack and mealtimes, after assisting with wiping noses, after toileting and nappy changes and after messy or outdoor play.

Toileting and nappy changing were supported according to individual children's needs.

Cleaning schedules were displayed in each classroom and indicated that these were recorded daily by the staff present, as tasks were completed.

Administration of Medication:

Staff were informed of procedures and on how to administer any specialised medication, in line with the service's policy on administration of medication. On review of a sample of five administration of medication records, details had been recorded specifically in line with the administration of medication policy in the service.

Safe Sleep:

There were two designated sleep rooms in the childcare service, one adjacent to the baby and wobbler room, which provided nine standard cots for children aged 0 to 2 years.

A second sleep room was provided adjacent to the toddler room which provided six standard cots, a floor bed and two stackable beds for children over 2 years of age.

Staff were observed to carry out physical checks on sleeping children in both sleep rooms, every 10 minutes in line with safe sleep guidelines.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The service did not demonstrate compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate regulatory notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every 3 years. There was one staff who did not have their Garda vetting renewed in line with the regulatory notice.
2. The inspectors observed that in the front outdoor play surface, spaces had developed between the soft surface design lines, which could potentially cause a child or adult to trip and fall.

Infection Control:

Baby and Wobbler room sanitary facilities.

1. There was one nappy changing facility available for the 5 infants in attendance in the baby room and for the 13 children in attendance in the wobbler room. This was not in line with the requirement to have one unit per 11 children and was previously identified as a non-compliance on inspection on 28 August 2023. It is acknowledged that the installation of an additional nappy changing unit was under process.

Toddler room sanitary facilities.

1. The inspector observed that there were cloth towels hanging over the toilet doors of the sanitary accommodation adjacent to the toddler room. This poses a risk of cross contamination and the spread of infection.
2. There were no aprons available in the nappy changing area adjacent to the toddler room.
3. There was no hand wash basin directly available for staff to wash their hands in the toddler nappy changing area. Staff had to use the hand wash basin in the staff toilet next to the nappy changing area.

Safe Sleep:

An Immediate Action Notice was issued onsite on the day of inspection in relation to high sleep room temperatures and the lack of action taken by staff on the day, in relation to providing a safe sleeping environment for the children.

Baby/Wobbler Sleep Room.

At 12:15 hours the baby/wobbler sleep room thermometer, which also provided a colour warning display, was observed to record a room temperature recording of 23.6°C with an amber warning colour displayed. The inspector recorded an air probe temperature in the sleep room of 23.3°C.

At this time the inspector observed that staff were placing children, three under the age of 1 year and three aged between 1 to 2 years down to sleep in their full clothing with blankets or in sleeping bags.

At 12:20 the inspector requested that staff consider the temperature of the sleep room and their safe sleep guidelines. The inspector requested that staff take mitigating actions, such as removing outer layers of clothing and sleep bags, to reduce the risk of children overheating.

The inspector felt the need to prompt staff to look at additional measures to lower the room temperature. The two room windows were already open, and a black out blind was in situ to reduce the heat from the glass panel between the corridor and sleep room.

Staff activated a room purifier in response, which was not appropriate to reduce air temperature, and the inspector recommended that staff inform the designated person in charge.

At 15:00 hours the room temperature was recorded as 24.6°C by the inspector. The service thermometer indicated a temperature of 24°C.

At 16:07 hours the inspector recorded a temperature of 26 °C, while the service thermometer continued to record a temperature of 24 °C and remained red.

The sleep room temperature was not maintained within the recommended range of 16 to 20°C for children under 1 year of age as per safe sleep guidelines.

Toddler sleep Room.

At 13:00 hours the inspector recorded the sleep room temperature as being 23°C which was not within the recommended sleep room temperature of 18 to 22°C for children over one year of age. Both windows in the room were opened to circulate air.

At 15:34 hours, the temperature was recorded at 23.4°C.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

SAFE SLEEP

On the 31 July the designated person in charge submitted a response to the Immediate Action Notice stating that the following corrective and preventive actions had been taken.

1. Staff were informed that during hot weather children are not to be put down to sleep in baby sleep grows.

2. The children are to be placed to sleep in their vests and underwear during hot weather.

3. All windows are to be opened.

4. The designated person in charge stated she had ordered two fans and a blackout blind.

The designated person in charge stated that in the long-term air-conditioning units will be installed in both sleep rooms.

On the 05 November 2024, the following additional actions were submitted by the registered provider. In response to the serious breach of the Safe Sleep policy, the manager convened a meeting with staff specifically to reaffirm the provisions of the safe sleep policy. BRCF Safe sleep policy and the Tusla Safe Sleep Policies were shared with staff and staff were requested to sign and return these policies, in acknowledgement of the fact that they had received the policies and understood their contents.

All staff will complete a certified refresher CPD course on safe sleep entitled 'Facilitating Safe Sleep'. The Board will pay for this course. Certificates of Completion will be retained on file.

The assistant manager will be responsible for oversight and carry out regular inspections.

GENERAL SAFETY

1. A renewed Garda vetting certificate has been obtained for the staff member and is now on file.

The designated person in charge states that regular audits of staff files will be conducted to ensure all necessary documents are updated.

2. An adhesive was obtained on the advice from the supplier, having filled in the spaces between the soft matting it was only a short time solution as it started to crumble once the children started to play on it again. The team are now again consulting with suppliers and maintenance to determine the best solution for securing the matting and preventing further separation. Once a solution is found for the matting, regular inspection of the matting will take place to identify any issues early.

On the 05 November the following additional response was submitted by the registered provider. As an interim measure, the team procured supplies to seal the openings in the soft matting play area. Staff will continue to monitor and maintain any necessary repairs, as they arise.

With a view to seeking a more durable/ sustainable flooring, the service is consulting with suppliers to agree a timeline for completion of more permanent resurfacing. They advise that this is weather dependent.

INFECTION CONTROL

Baby and Wobbler Room Sanitary Facilities

1. The completion of a new baby changing room is in process.

Toddler Room Sanitary Facilities

1. & 2. The team understand seriousness of having cloth towels in toilet areas and not having aprons in the apron dispenser. Management have reinforced our hygiene and safety protocols with the staff to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

3. The service is engaging with a maintenance man who will be on call and will address these issues promptly.

The following additional response was submitted by the registered provider on the 5 November 2024- The maintenance team met and agreed a plan of action. The manager has consulted the plumber, and he will install a handwashing sink unit by Monday 28th October 2024 in the toddler nappy changing area. Shelving will be removed, and a curtain rail installed to preserve the child's dignity during nappy changing. Secure shelving will be installed.

Supporting documentation submitted

SAFE SLEEP

No evidence submitted.

GENERAL SAFETY

1. Copy of Garda Vetting Certificate.
2. No evidence submitted.

INFECTION CONTROL

Baby and Wobbler Sanitary Facilities

Photographic evidence of new baby room nappy changing area and progress with painting and new nappy changing table in situ.

Toddler Room Sanitary Facilities, no evidence submitted.

Summary Comment

The actions submitted by the designated person in charge address the non-compliances identified in point 1. General safety, point 1. Infection control. The responses submitted by the designated person in charge regarding the non-compliances identified on inspection, under Safe Sleep and point 2. General Safety and point 1. & 2. in the toddler room sanitary facilities under Infection Control, did not provide adequate insurance that the non-compliances had been rectified.

Further evidence of corrective and preventive actions submitted to address the outstanding non-compliances, are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next inspection.

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)
There was sufficient staff trained in first aid responder course immediately available to the children attending the preschool service.

(2)(a)(b)
There was a suitably equipped first aid box stored in an easily accessible position on the premises and was available to the children attending the preschool service.

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 firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.
- (2) The record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection by-
- (a) a parent or guardian of a pre-school child attending or proposing to attend the pre-school service,
 - (b) an employee, and
 - (c) an authorised person.
- (3) A registered provider shall ensure that a record referred to in paragraph (2) is retained for a period of 5 years after its creation
- (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)

Monthly fire drills were carried out in the service. The last recorded fire drill was carried out on the 26 May 2024.

(1)(b)

A record was maintained of when the firefighting equipment and smoke alarm were serviced in May 2024.

(4)

There was a notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire displayed in a conspicuous position in the hallway of the service.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

An insurance certificate was available to demonstrate that insurance was in place.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (a) of sound and stable structure,*
- (b) safe and secure,*
- (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

- (a) The designated person in charge and registered provider reported that there were no structural concerns in relation to the building and premises.
- (b) The service was secured with a high metal gate and railing around the front parameter and side of the premises and at the back there was a high metal wire fence securing the four sections of outdoor play areas.
- (c) The service was adequately lit by natural light coming through the windows in each classroom and the large panels of glass in the corridor and front of the building.

Non-Compliance Information

- (d)1. The door frame and skirting boards of a proposed new nappy changing room in the baby room, were not treated or painted, to aid cleaning and infection control procedures.
2. There was no splash back behind the new sink that was installed in the baby room to protect the wall from splashes during handwashing and cleaning of toys and equipment which could potentially pose a risk of cross infection in the service.

3. In the kitchenette/ messy play area of the Toddler room the inspector observed that there was damp water stains and black mould on the shelving and wall on the right-hand side. Black mould was also observed on the tile grout on the wall underneath.

In the same area broken tiles were observed at the skirting level of the wall on the left-hand side.

(e) The nappy changing room that has been installed in the baby room was not suitable.

1. The walls of the room were uneven with old plaster and paint and one wall and part of the ceiling had exposed hard board which had not been plastered and finished to a wipeable surface.

2. Handles were missing off the cupboard under the hand wash basin. There were no liquid hand soap dispensers or paper towel dispensers provided.

3. The nappy changing unit in the room was oversized and not suitable for the size of the nappy changing room, which posed a physical risk to staff and children in the small space they had to manoeuvre in, to use the nappy changing table.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

The designated person in charge submitted the following corrective and preventive actions.

Corrective and Preventive Action

Baby Room

(d)1. Door frame is now painted in washable paint but the door of the unit and skirting boards in the changing area at present are under coated.

2. The splash backs are still not in place at the hand sink in the changing room or at the sink in the main room.

3. The team are engaging with a maintenance man who will be on call and will address these issues promptly.

(e)1. The old plaster has been removed from the wall in the in the new changing area in the baby room. One wall has washable paint but the other walls at present are still only undercoated with white paint.

2. Handles have been placed on the cupboard under the hand wash sink. Liquid soap dispensers have been placed at the hand sink; the paper towel holder is ready to be attached to the wall.

3. A new smaller nappy changing unit has been installed.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence of paintwork, progress in baby changing room and installation of a nappy changing unit.

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Summary Comment

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next inspection.