

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DL056			
<b>Name of Service:</b>	Kid Kare Crèche & Montessori Pre-school			
<b>Address of Service:</b>	Tawnalarry, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal			
<b>Eircode:</b>	F94 A895			
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Sharon Graham-Porter			
<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day			
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	23/10/2024			
<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	109	PM	81
<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F95 XK94			
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	L McGlynn, S Meehan and K Folan			
<b>Title:</b>	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).

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

Kid Kare Crèche and Montessori preschool is a privately owned and operated early years' service located in a rural setting on the outskirts of Donegal Town. The service is registered to provide full day, part-time and sessional care to children aged 0 - 6 years and operates from 8.00am-6.00pm each weekday. The service is also registered to provide school age care.

The service operates from three separate buildings which are located adjacently on the pre-school site. There are eight care rooms in total across the three buildings.

There are four playrooms provided in the two-storey building to the front of the site. The Little Discoverer's and Little Adventurer's rooms are located on the ground floor in this building. Children's sanitary facilities and sleeping accommodation are located adjacent to both of these ground-floor rooms. A staff room, a kitchen where meals for children are prepared and ancillary storage areas are also located on the ground floor. The Montessori Sun and Montessori Moon rooms are located on the first floor of this building.

A single storey building situated towards the rear of the pre-school site includes two additional playrooms, namely the Little Explorer's and Montessori Star rooms. The Montessori Star room is served by adjacent children's toilets. Nappy-changing facilities and a designated sleep room are available just off the Little Explorer's room. Other facilities provided in this building include an office and staff sanitary facilities.

A further single storey building to the right of the two main buildings houses the Earth room which is used as a sessional pre-school in the mornings and a school age service in the afternoons. A large awning shelters an outdoor play area utilised by children in this room on a daily basis.

The service has recently added an additional outdoor preschool session in this area known as 'Sky'. There are two sheltered areas and sanitary accommodation for children in this area.

### Staffing

A total of 39 staff members were employed in the service at the time of inspection. This included the registered provider as manager, 31 staff members working directly with the preschool children and 3 staff members worked

directly with school age children only. Auxiliary staff included kitchen, maintenance and office staff. There was one staff member employed as part of the Access and Inclusion Model.

### 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. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9, 11, 19 and 23; however, on inspection additional non-compliance which posed a risk was identified under Regulation 29. These findings are outlined within 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 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 24 October 2024 in relation to Garda Vetting. The registered provider replied by return to confirm adherence to the directive given.

### Acknowledgments

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

## Part III – Management and Staff

### Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

*(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-*

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

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

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

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

### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) The registered provider was the designated person in charge and there was a named person in each room to deputise in the event of her absence.
  - (b) The staff roster demonstrated that the designated person or named deputies were present at all times during the operation of the service.
  - (c) Information on the service's management structure was provided during the inspection identifying the lines of authority, roles and responsibilities of employees.
- (2) At the time of inspection, the registered provider confirmed that there were 39 staff members who worked in the service. With reference to the above listed elements of Regulation 9, recruitment records of the 39 staff members were reviewed and the following was available:
- (a) (b) Written and validated references were on file for 36 staff members from a past employer or in cases where there were no past employers, a source other than a previous employer.
  - (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for 36 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) International police vetting was on file for six staff members who required it.
- (4) Evidence of completion of a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent was on file for 30 staff members who required it.

### Non-Compliance Information

- (c) Garda vetting disclosures were not on file for three staff members who had access to children. An Immediate Action Notice was issued on 24 October 2024 in response to the breach of Regulation.
- (a) (b) There were no references on file for two staff members.
- (d) International police vetting was not available for one staff member whose employment record demonstrated that they had resided outside of the State for a period greater than six months as an adult. There was also no record of employment on file for a second staff member therefore the requirement for international police vetting could not be determined.
- (4) The evidence presented on the day of inspection did not adequately demonstrate that one staff member had completed a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.
- (d)

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

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

- (c) Garda vetting was immediately obtained for the three staff members. The office has organised a system to ensure that expiration dates of garda vetting are clearly outlined. New staff will be added to this list as soon as their first garda vetting has been received. No staff will be granted hours of work until the appropriate garda vetting and international police clearance has been received, and their name is on the garda vetting list.
- (a) (b) The references were obtained. We will ensure to have two sets of references on file for new staff starting with us. These will be obtained at interview and verified prior to staff commencing work. We have a staff file requirement checklist that we will monitor to ensure that this oversight doesn't happen again.
- (d) International police vetting is now on file for the staff member who required it. Staff record for the second staff member was found after the inspection (stored in an incorrect folder). No international police vetting was required. We were unaware that the police vetting from England that we had on file was insufficient until the day of inspection. We will ensure the ICPC is the version we have on file for any future staff. We will ensure that all staff files are maintained in the same location.
- (4) Letter has been received from the ATU Sligo to confirm staff member's qualification to the equivalent of a Level 7. This letter has now been forwarded to the DCEDIY to confirm their current level of training with us and we await their reply. Amie has been taken off the roster until letter of confirmation is obtained. Copies of

certificates or letters from the DCEDIY will be obtained prior to students commencing work. We have a new check list of items required prior to new staff / students commencing work.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

Copies of Garda vetting, police vetting, references and a letter from a college was submitted.

### **Summary Comment**

The non-compliances identified under Regulation 9 (2) (a) (b) (c) (d) and (4) have been adequately addressed.

## **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**

(1) There was an adequate number of adults caring for the children throughout the inspection.

When the inspector's arrived at the service, 109 children were being cared for by 19 staff members in seven care rooms.

(2) In the Little Discoverers (baby) room two staff members were caring for five children aged 0-1 year.

In the Little Adventurers (toddler) room, three staff members were caring for 16 children aged 2-3 years.

In the Montessori Sun room, three staff members were caring for 17 children aged 3-5 years.

In the Montessori Moon room, two staff members were caring for 11 children aged 3-5 years.

In the Little Explorers (wobbler) room, three staff members were caring for 14 children aged 1-2 years.

In the Montessori Star room, three staff members were caring for 20 children aged 2-5 years.

In the Earth room, two staff members were caring for 16 children aged 2-5 years.

In the Sky room, one staff member was caring for 10 children aged 2-3 years.

### 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)

The children were offered meals and snacks which were prepared by the service with pre-planned menus covering a 3-week period available in the setting. Some of the children had brought food items from home to have for their snack/meals in the service which were stored under refrigerated conditions before being consumed. A morning snack of toast and fruit was served in all rooms on the day of inspection with chicken, potatoes and vegetables as the main meal. The afternoon snack was pizza and children in the older rooms excitedly informed the inspectors they were having a 'pizza party'. Children in the Montessori moon and sun rooms engaged in a baking activity making cookies. Children appeared to enjoy the food served and adequate portions were available for each child. Water was readily available to children throughout the day.

Babies and toddlers had their nappies changed on a scheduled basis and more frequently if required. Nappy changes were carried out in a timely and sensitive manner with interactions between staff and children observed to be respectful and positive. Staff members communicated with children throughout nappy-changing procedure and used the time to engage children in one-to-one interaction.

Older children were encouraged to use the toilet independently and support was provided by staff if required. Children attending each of the rooms had opportunities to move about freely and explore their environment. Younger children spent long periods of time on the floor and using props to learn how to stand and walk independently. Staff who spoke with the inspection team about the importance of outdoor play and the value that was placed on accessing outdoor experiences as part of the daily routine.

Appropriate clothing was available to children to engage in outdoor play in all weathers and each child had spare clothing to change in to if required.

### Non-Compliance Information

1. The dignity and privacy of children was not protected in the little explorers, little adventurers and little discoverers rooms during nappy changing. In both the little discoverers and little explorer's room, the viewing panels in the nappy changing areas exposed children to the care room while being changed. In the little adventurer's room, the nappy bench was located in a communal area which children had to pass through to access the sanitary accommodation.

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

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

1. Adhesive panels were added to the nappy changing windows of Little Discoverer's and Little Explorer's rooms, to respect the dignity and privacy of the children. The panels come up far enough to offer privacy to the child, but staff can still see into the playroom where necessary. Little Adventurer's nappy changing unit has had a privacy wall added to it, and the nappy changing facilities have been reorganised to ensure the privacy of the child. Staff have been informed at a staff meeting about the need to respect children's privacy during nappy changing. Any damage to privacy panels is to be reported to the office immediately, so that replacements or repairs can be made.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

A series of images were submitted.

### Summary Comment

The inspectors have reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 19 (1)(a) is deemed to be addressed and the practice will be reviewed on the next inspection.

### 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:

- All entry points to the service were secured with a bell system alerting staff to the arrival of parents or visitors. Each of the outdoor play areas were enclosed with boundary fencing preventing the unsupervised exit of a preschool child.
- Cleaning products in the playrooms were stored in high shelving out of the reach of children or in locked cupboards with safety restrictors.
- The premises, toys, and play equipment appeared to be maintained in good repair and were appropriate for the age group of children using them.
- Window cord blinds were appropriately secured. Cables for electrical appliances were appropriately secured to prevent the risk of accident or injury to children.
- Children were supervised when using the stairs by either a staff member or their parents on arrival and departure. The stairs were observed to be well maintained with no trip hazards or obstructions evident.

##### Infection Control:

- Cleaning schedules were maintained in each of the care rooms and sanitary accommodation. Record indicated regular cleaning practices in each area.
- Nappy changing and sanitary facilities were maintained in a clean, hygienic condition. Changing mats were maintained in good repair allowing for effective cleaning and disinfecting after use.
- Nappy changing procedures observed on the day of inspection supported effective infection control practices. Protective aprons and gloves were worn by staff during the nappy change and disposed of immediately.

##### Administration of Medication:

- Staff were conversant on the services policy for safe administration of medication. Consent was provided by parents prior to medication being administered and parents also signed on collection of their child to confirm their knowledge. A sample review of records maintained on the administration of medication evidenced that all required information was documented on each occasion.

##### Safe Sleep:

- Staff were observed to enter the sleep rooms at no more than 10-minute intervals in the little explorers, little adventurer's and little discovers rooms. The colour, position and breathing pattern of the children attending these rooms were maintained on documented sleep check logs.

### Fire Safety:

- The procedure for safe evacuation in the event of a fire was on display in each of the care rooms. A record was maintained of fire drills carried out in the service and noted to be completed monthly with the most recent dated in October 2024.

### Non-Compliance Information

The following non-compliances may pose as a safety risk to preschool children:

#### Safe Sleep:

1. In the little explorer's sleep room, one child was placed to sleep beside a radiator which was switched on and reached a surface temperature of 48°C.
2. The air temperature in the little explorer's care room was outside the maximum safe levels while children slept. At 1.00pm, the air temperature was recorded at 23.3°C while five children slept in the room. Staff members were not aware of the elevated temperature until it was brought to their attention by the inspector and remedial action was taken. When checked by the inspector, staff had not recorded the air temperature on the 10-minute sleep checks. The service policy on safe sleep does not require staff to record the air temperature of the room and staff confirmed that they do not record or measure the air temperature while children sleep. The record is maintained of the air temperature before children enter the room and it is not recorded thereafter.
3. The air temperature in the sleep room and care room in the little explorers could not be accurately measured by staff to ensure they were maintained within maximum safe levels. There was no thermometer in the care room and the thermometer in the sleep room did not provide an accurate reading.
4. The mats provided for children to sleep on in the Montessori sun and moon rooms were not intended for use by sleeping children therefore were inadequate.
5. There were eight cots in the little explorer's sleep room that were fitted with mattresses which were unsuitable as they were either not covered with waterproof material, too small for the cot base creating a foothold, worn and torn exposing the foam underneath or worn below the required depth of 6cm.
6. Staff in the Montessori star room confirmed with inspectors that they did not carry out sleep checks on sleeping children in the room.

### General Safety:

7. Garda vetting was available for two staff members. 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'.
8. A cot was positioned in front of the emergency exit route in the sleep room off the little explorer's sleep room and a frame with wet clothes was stored on the main corridor preventing safe evacuation in the event of a fire.
9. The water temperature in one of the wash hand basins in the Sky room was measured above the maximum safe limit of 43°C to prevent the risk of scalding. When checked by the inspector, the running water temperature measured 45°C.
10. Records detailing the attendance of preschool children in the earth and sky rooms were not maintained accurately in relation to children's departure time. A review of the attendance records 12.18pm when the two rooms were brought together demonstrated that two children had not been signed out on leaving service. An inaccurate record of attendance poses a risk that children may be unaccounted for or overlooked in the event of an emergency evacuation.
11. There were no restrictive opening devices on first-floor windows in the Montessori sun and moon rooms.
12. The door to the staff room which was used to store medication, staff belongings and hazardous kitchen equipment was unsecured when checked by the inspectors.
13. Shatter proof diffusers were not fitted in the sanitary area off the Montessori moon room and the corridor leading to the Montessori star room.
14. The plastic cover on a steering wheel in the outdoor play area was cracked and broken posing a risk of injury.

### Infection Control:

15. The sleep equipment used by children in the little explorer's sleep room was not maintained in a clean hygienic condition. Four of the cot sheets were stained and contained loose food particles.
16. The sleep position of children in the Montessori star room did not adhere to infection control guidance to prevent the risk of cross infection. Two children were placed to sleep on the same mattress and there was no gap of 50cm between sleep mats while children slept.

17. Individual bed linen provided for each child's use was not always stored separately. In the little explorer's room, there were four sleep mats/mattresses fitted with bedsheets stored together within another cot when not in use.
18. Children's soothers were not stored in a clean, hygienic condition to prevent the risk of cross infection and ensure effective infection control practices. Children's soothers were found on the floor of the little explorer's sleep room and stored together in a divided container. Soothers were also stored on an open shelf in the sky room.
19. In the little explorer's room, children's handwashing was not carried out as required immediately prior to snack time, on return from outdoor play and after nappy changing.
20. Waste was not disposed of appropriately in the nappy changing areas. Soiled nappies were placed in bins that were not self-sealing, leak proof foot pedal bins. Gloves used by staff during nappy changes were disposed of in hand operated bins.

### Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### **Corrective & Preventive Action**

##### **Safe Sleep:**

1. The cot has been moved away from the fire exit when in use, which moves it out of the way of the radiator as well. The heat in the Little Explorer's room will be set to come on before scheduled sleep times, and scheduled to be off during nap time. That particular radiator is been turned off when the children are using the cot beside the radiator. Spot checks will be carried out by management to ensure that the radiator surface temperature is at a reasonable level to maintain heat in the sleep room.
2. Room thermometers have been bought and distributed to the necessary rooms. We have included 10-minute temperature checks to our safe sleep policy and sleep record sheets. These have been introduced to all rooms to use going forward, and we have checked to ensure that all rooms are including the temperature checks as needed. It was also mentioned in our staff meeting. All new staff will be given the most recent policies to review before starting work- so they will be informed of this necessary check. Sleep sheets are monitored by the office and signed off by management regularly (whenever a sleep sheet is fully finished and ready to file away). Any lapse of temperature checks will be noted by management and discussed with the room. We will also do spot checks to ensure that recorded temperatures are accurate.
3. Room thermometers have been bought and distributed to the care room and sleep room. At the staff meeting, staff were told to notify the office if their thermometers are broken or damaged so that

replacements can be purchased in a timely manner. Digital thermometers will be bought for rooms going forward. Management will buy new thermometers as soon as we have been notified of a rooms need for a new one.

4. Stackable beds have been provided to the rooms. The previous mats have been repurposed for use during yoga, meditation activities only. Appropriate mattresses/beds will be provided to rooms that highlight the need for them in future.
5. Some of the cots in Little Discoverer's are not needed, so these cot mattresses (which are the appropriate depth and size) have been moved to the Little Explorer's sleep room. Seven new mattresses were ordered for Little Explorers to accommodate the required needs of the room. Mattresses will be regularly checked by staff and management to ensure that the depth has not been worn too thin. If there are any changes of cots in sleep rooms, staff and management will ensure that the mattresses are the appropriate size for them as well.
6. Sleep check records have been created for Montessori Star to record length of child's sleep and times of sleep checks, and the temperature in the room during sleep. This has been updated in our Safe Sleep and Rest Policy. These sleep checks will be submitted to the office at the end of each week for filing and review. Management will review these before filing. Spot checks will also be carried out by management to ensure checks are being carried out as required.

### General Safety:

7. Garda vetting has been obtained for both staff members. The office has organised a system to ensure that expiration dates of garda vetting are clearly outlined. This list will be checked monthly to ensure that any upcoming expirations are applied for in a timely manner. Staff were reminded in the staff meeting that completing the garda e-vetting application is their responsibility and must be completed within the necessary timeframe to avoid non-compliance.
8. An extra cot is being moved into the playroom during sleep time. This means that the cot blocking the Little Explorers fire exit can now be moved during sleep time to allow for adequate space for exits. The clothes horse has been removed from the hallway during operating hours, and a sign has been posted in that area to ensure that staff do not block the hallway in future. Cot sleep positions guideline has been amended to ensure that all staff know of this change for future sleeps. A sign has been posted in the front building hallway to ensure that staff do not block the hallway in future.
9. The water heater for the Sky room is located underneath the sink. When checked after inspection, it was set too high and so the water temperature was too hot. The dial was turned down on the water heater-

leaving the water to an appropriate temperature. Water temperature was measured with a probe to ensure it met the safe limits. We will do spot checks on water temperature to ensure it doesn't go above safe limits in future.

10. This was addressed in our staff meeting following the inspection. It was highlighted to staff the importance of accurately maintained sign in sheets at all times. Spot checks will be carried out by management to ensure that children are being signed out in a timely manner, and not after the fact.
11. Restrictive devices have been added to the windows in Montessori Moon and Sun. In our staff meeting it was addressed to staff the importance of the window restrictors for child safety. It was also outlined that any damage to these window restrictors needs to be brought to management's attention immediately. All staff were advised to notify management about any other windows that they feel needs a restrictor.
12. A latch has been fixed to address the issue of the door opening when it is pushed. Staff have been asked to inform management if they notice the door is not latching shut again, so that it can be fixed immediately.
13. Shatterproof bulbs have been installed for both lights. These bulbs are made of PVC rather than glass. Staff were informed in the staff meeting to be mindful of the safety hazard posed by lights without shatterproof covers. They are to inform management of any bulbs they identify without a shatterproof cover, or any damaged shatterproof covers. These will be replaced immediately.
14. The steering wheel in the Little Explorer's playground has been repaired to avoid injury. In our staff meeting it was mentioned to staff to please keep an eye on the playgrounds for any areas of damage or repair that might be required. They have been asked to communicate these issues to the office as soon as possible so that it can be addressed and fixed as quickly as possible.

### Infection Control:

15. This was addressed at the staff meeting. It was discussed that while cot sheets are washed every week, they must be cleaned whenever they are noted to be soiled in any way. Kid Kare has spare cot sheets to use in situations such as this. Management will carry out spot checks of sleep equipment to ensure that they are of sufficient cleanliness and state.
16. Individual beds have been provided for the Star room children. Markings of 50cm distance have been marked on the skirting board of the room to identify the appropriate distance between beds. It was addressed in the staff meeting that all cots/beds/mattresses must be 50cm apart for infection control. Any rooms that require their children to sleep and are unsure if their beds/cots adequately spaced can ask management to help them mark out the distances on skirting boards, etc. to help ensure consistency.

17. In the staff meeting it was outlined that mattresses with cot linens cannot be stored inside other cots. Cot linens need to be removed from mattresses and stored on the shelf. The mattresses are to be stored in the sleep room- not inside another cot. Spot checks will be carried out by management.
18. Parents in the Little Explorers room were emailed to remind them to send in individual, labelled storage boxes for dummies. It has been added to our 'parents provide' document that individual and labelled storage boxes for dummies need to be provided by parents.
19. At the time of inspection, the sink in Little Explorers room was not in working condition. The sink has now been fixed to ensure adequate handwashing facilities. Staff were reminded of the requirement of handwashing as part of infection control procedures in our staff meeting. Management will carry out spot checks of all rooms to ensure that hands are being washed regularly and at key times of the day.
20. Leak proof, self-seal, pedal operated nappy bins have been provided to the rooms. Hand operated glove bins have been removed from the service and will no longer be used. This was highlighted in our staff meeting. When the new bins are delivered, we will inform staff that any damage to the nappy bins must be reported immediately to ensure that this non-compliance does not arise again. Any new nappy bins that are required for other rooms will also be leak proof, self seal, and pedal operated.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

Images, videos, purchase receipts, staff meeting records, purchase receipts a policy and template record sheets were submitted.

### **Summary Comment**

The inspectors have reviewed the information and documentation submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 23 have been adequately addressed.

## Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

### Regulation 29 - Premises

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

#### Non-Compliance Information

(e) There was an inadequate number of nappy changing stations and wash hand basins available to children attending the little explorer's room. There were 14 children in attendance on the day and one nappy changing station. One nappy changing station and one wash hand basin is required for every 11 children attending, therefore an additional changing station and wash hand basin was required.

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

##### Corrective and Preventive Action

(e) A second nappy changing unit has been added to the Little Explorer's nappy changing room. A sink has been ordered and will be installed upon delivery. This issue should not arise again as these extra requirements will be added. However, to avoid such issues in another room in future, appropriate counts of children in nappies will be carried out at the start of each academic year.

##### Supporting documentation submitted

Images and purchase receipts were submitted.

#### Summary Comment

The non-compliance identified under Regulation 29 has been adequately addressed.