

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DR145
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Name of Service:	Flower Childcare Clonskeagh
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Address of Service:	19 Roebuck Road, Clonskeagh, Dublin 14, Co. Dublin
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Eircode:	D14 V386
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Name of Registered Provider:	Cherif Labreche
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Service type:	Full Day
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Date(s) of Inspection:	14/04/2025
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No of pre-school children:	AM	18	PM	21
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Brunel Building Heuston South Quarter Dublin 8
Inspection undertaken by:	J. Mayock & R. Duff
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

Description of service

Flower Childcare Clonskeagh is located on the grounds of the Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland in a residential area of Clonskeagh. The service is privately owned and was first established in 2012. The service currently provides full day, part-time and sessional care to children aged 1-6 years and offers an Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE). The service operates from 09:00 to 17:30 each weekday and comprises of two care rooms. There is an enclosed outdoor play area available to the front of the service with artificial grass surfacing.

Staffing

The service currently employs five staff members, not including the registered provider who does not work directly in the service. On the day of inspection, the five staff members were present.

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 and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations:

- 9 (1)(a)(b), (2)(a)(b)(c)(d), (4) Management and recruitment,
- 11 (1)(2) Staffing levels,
- 15 Record of a pre-school child,
- 19 (1)(b) Health welfare and development of child,
- 23 Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child,
- 25 (1), (2)(a)(b) First aid.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation 15 Record of a pre-school child.

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

Three Immediate Action notices (IAN) were issued to the registered provider on the day of inspection in relation to a safety risks identified under Regulations 23 and 25. It is acknowledged that the registered provider immediately implemented actions to mitigate one of the risks identified. A response which adequately addressed the two other concerns was received on 15 April 2025. Please see details in the body of the report.

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) The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required who were both on the premises throughout the inspection.
- (2) Documentation was reviewed in respect of regulation 9(2)(4) for two adults who were employed to work in the service since the last date of inspection on the 11 November 2024. Regulation 9(2)(c) was reviewed for all six adults employed to work in the service.
- (a)(b) The registered provider demonstrated that they had verified the references obtained from two sources for the two adults.

(c) A Garda vetting disclosure from The National Vetting Bureau was available for each of the six adults. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) International police vetting was available for the two adults who required it.

(4) The two adults held a relevant major award in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Framework of Qualifications.

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) An adequate number of adults were working directly with the pre-school children attending the service during the inspection.

(2) The registered provider ensured that the minimum ratio of adults to children was maintained in the service on the day of inspection. There were eighteen children present in the service being supervised by four adults during the 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.*

Non-Compliance Information

A sample of documentation was reviewed for twelve of the children currently enrolled to attend the service by the inspectors. Some of the records reviewed did not contain all of the required particulars as follows:

- (a) Five of the ten records reviewed did not contain details of the date on which the child first attended the service.
- (e) One of the records did not state an appropriate authorisation for the collection of a child.
- (g) One of the records did not have the name and telephone number of the child's registered medical practitioner.

This non-compliance was observed on the last inspection on 11 November 2024. The corrective and preventive actions as stated by the registered provider did not prevent recurrence of this non-compliance.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

The following response was provided by the service:

Corrective and Preventive Action

The manager reviewed all the children's folders and ensured that all children's records are complete and up to date. We created a standardized enrolment checklist and have trained staff to use and complete this checklist before accepting any enrolment. We will conduct monthly or every two months audits of all children's records.

Supporting documentation submitted

Supporting documentation was submitted and reviewed by the early year's inspector.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventive actions submitted as stated will address the non-compliance identified. These actions will be assessed on the next inspection of the service. The regulatory requirement has been met.

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-

(b) appropriate and suitable care practices are in place in the pre-school service, having regard to the number of children attending the service and the nature of their needs.

Compliance Information

Staff members were observed interacting with the children in a warm and affectionate manner and demonstrated an awareness of the individual needs of the children in their care. Adults used respectful language during interactions with the children who appeared happy and content throughout the inspection. Children were observed engaged in activities, exploring their play environments and playing with each other and the staff. The children were all provided with the opportunity to play outdoors on the day of inspection and were dressed appropriately to the weather. Older children were observed using the toilet independently and younger children wearing nappies were changed regularly and as required.

Adults used respectful language during all interactions observed with the children. Staff working in the service were observed exchanging information on activities, meals, sleep and nappy-changing with parents during collection. Staff also availed of opportunities to communicate with parents and guardians through an online messaging application throughout the day, sharing photographs of the children during activities.

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 entrance door into service was adequately secured to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised.
- The toys and play equipment observed in use by the children on the day of inspection were safe and in good working order.
- Cleaning agents were stored out of reach of children.

Infection Control:

- Liquid soap, warm water and paper towels were available to facilitate hand washing. Staff were observed to wash their hands in line with the infection control policy.
- Children's nappies were changed in line with the service's nappy changing policy to reduce the risk of the spread of infection.
- Individual bed linen was provided for the children requiring sleep. Staff stated that all bed linen is laundered weekly or as required.

Safe Sleep:

- Children requiring a nap were physically monitored while sleeping and sleep checks were documented every ten minutes.
- An adult remained in the room at all times where children were sleeping.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

- An immediate action notice was issued for the temperature of a radiator in the Bluebell room accessible to children on the day of inspection. The temperature of the radiator had a reading of 51.8°C posing a significant risk to the children.
- An immediate action notice was issued for the water temperature in the children's handwash sinks in the Bluebell and Jasmine rooms and the sanitary area. All three sinks water temperatures were above the required maximum temperature of 43°C and posed a risk of scalding to a child. The water temperatures ranged from 45°C to 46°C.

This non-compliance was observed on the last inspection on 11 November and 7 February 2024. The corrective and preventive actions as stated by the registered provider did not prevent recurrence of this non-compliance.
- In the Bluebell room a glass mirror hung on the wall was broke and posed a significant risk to the children.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

The following response was provided by the service:

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. We turned off or lowered the radiator temperature immediately to reduce heat to mitigate the risk to the children. We installed a thermostat with a temperature limiter, and we placed radiator cover to prevent overheating. Scheduled regular maintenance of the heating system to ensure proper operation.

2. We installed a thermostatic regulated thermometer on the main boiler that does not exceed the required Maximum temperature. We will conduct regular checks and maintenance of water heaters and implement a daily water temperature check log. We will train staff on how to test water temperature and respond to irregularities.
3. Replaced all wall mirrors with shatterproof safety mirrors made of acrylic or polycarbonate and we will carry out regular safety inspections.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

Supporting documentation was submitted and reviewed by the early year's inspector.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventive actions submitted as stated will address the non-compliance identified. These actions will be assessed on the next inspection of the service. The regulatory requirement has been met.

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.

Non-Compliance Information

- (1) There were no adults available in the service with up to date First Aid Responder (FAR) or Paediatric First Aid training on the day of inspection. An immediate action notice was issued following the inspection in relation to Regulation 25(1).

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The manager has been trained in FAR this month and the deputy manager is enrolled on a course to be trained in June.

Supporting documentation submitted

Supporting documentation was submitted and reviewed by the early year's inspector.

Summary Comment

The regulatory requirement has been met.