

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:	27/04/2026
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No of pre-school children:	AM	13	PM	11
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate - Tusla Child and Family Agency Brunel Building, Floor 7 Heuston South Quarter Dublin 8, D08 X01F
Inspection undertaken by:	M Bermingham and S Quigley
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).

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Description of service

Flower Childcare Clonskeagh is registered to provide full day care for up to 23 children aged 1-6 years. Opening hours are 09:00-17:30. The service is located on the grounds of the Islamic Culture Centre of Ireland. There were three care rooms on the premises named Jasmine, Bluebell, and Lily rooms. On the day of inspection children aged 3-5 years were cared for in Jasmine room and children aged 2-4 years were cared for in Bluebell room, which was also used for sleeping. Lily room was not in use. The registered provider stated that the use of Lily room depends on the number of children attending on a given day. The service also accommodates school-age children. There is a fully enclosed play area to the front of the service with an artificial surface.

Staffing

There were six adults employed by the service who were all working directly with children on the day of inspection, including the person in charge who assisted in the rooms, and one relief staff member who arrived after the inspection commenced. The registered provider works in the service and was present for part of the 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, and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

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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.

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.

Statutory Notices

Notice	Date Served	Detail
Improvement Notice IN 0182	27/04/2026	In the Jasmine room, a staff member was directly caring for a child with a severe allergy. The staff member and the person in charge were unaware of the requirement to administer an auto-injector pen in the event of the child having a severe allergic reaction. Two auto-injector pens onsite expired on 01/2026.
Status	The person in charge acted immediately following service of the notice and submitted a written response detailing corrective and preventive actions. The response was reviewed and accepted by the Inspectorate.	

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Improvement Notice IN 0181	27/04/2026	Vetting documentation that was written in Spanish was not translated to English for one adult working in the service and who was onsite on the day of inspection.
Status	The person in charge took action following service of the notice and submitted a written response detailing corrective and preventive actions. The response was reviewed and accepted by the Inspectorate.	

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.

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Compliance Information

(1)

- (a) The service had a named person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.
- (b) The person in charge and/or deputy were rostered to be present on the premises for the duration of the opening hours.
- (c) A clear management structure was in place, evidenced by observing the operation of the service and through discussion with staff.

(2)

Six adults were employed by the service, three of whom commenced since the last inspection on 14 May 2025. This was determined through a review of previous inspection information and the current roster, and through discussion with the person in charge. Vetting documentation was reviewed for the for the newly commenced adults and Garda vetting renewal documentation was reviewed for existing adults and the following found:

- (a) Two written and verified references from previous employers were available
- (b) Four written and verified references from sources other than previous employers were available
- (c) Three Garda vetting disclosures were available. Renewals of Garda vetting were in line with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring renewal every three years for all adults employed in the service.
- (d) International police vetting certificates for one adult who lived outside the state for a period of more than six months as an adult were available.

(4)

Three staff members working directly with children held the required qualifications or recognised equivalent, as found through a review of records.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)(d)

See Statutory Notice in relation to Improvement Notice 0181

(3)

The procedures specified in the Improvement Notice 0181 were not carried out prior to the adult commencing in the service, as required. Allowing adults work with children before their suitability is established may result in individuals who are not appropriate having access to children.

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Corrective and Preventive Action

(3) The registered provider stated that

- Actions were taken immediately to carry out the required translation.
- The necessary updates were made to the staff file audit form and the service's recruitment, selection and vetting policy.
- Management and administration staff were trained, and policy and procedure will be regularly reviewed.

Supporting documentation submitted

Supporting documentation was submitted by the register provider and reviewed by the inspector.

Summary Comment

The actions taken, as stated by the registered provider, adequately address the noncompliance identified under Regulation 9.

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 children at all times during the inspection.

(2)

The minimum ratio of adults to children was adhered to at all times during the inspection. There were 6 adults working with 13 children in the morning and 5 adults working with 11 children in the afternoon.

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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

Twelve child records were reviewed and contained the complete set of required information as follows:

- (a) The name and date of birth of each child.
- (b) The date on which the child first attended the service.
- (c) Provision for recording the date when the child would cease to attend the service.
- (d) The names, addresses and telephone numbers of parents and an alternative contact, and information of how a parent or an alternative contact can be contacted during the operational hours of the service.
- (e) Authorisation for the collection of the child.
- (f) Provision for the recording of any illness, disability, allergy or special needs of the child , and relevant information to support the provision of special care or attention.
- (g) The name and telephone number of the child's medical practitioner.
- (h) Record of immunisations, if any, received by the child.
- (i) Written consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency.

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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

(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

The following observations demonstrated how children's learning, development and well-being was facilitated within the daily life of the service and how appropriate and suitable care practices were in place:

Children ate at regular intervals during the inspection to include a morning snack provided by parents. The registered provider stated that the dinner provided by the service consisted of pasta with tuna sauce. Apple slices were served afterwards. Drinking water was available to children at mealtimes and throughout the day. Children's nappies were changed regularly and staff reported that nappies would also be changed when needed. Older children were facilitated to use the toilet. Children were facilitated to rest. Children were facilitated to play outside for a large portion of the inspection which supports a healthy lifestyle and physical development. Children were wearing light coats and staff helped children take off their jackets when the children said they felt too warm.

Adults supported children's independence as children transitioned through the daily routine. For example, after snack children put away their lunchboxes and bags. Children put on their own coats and adults helped when needed. Adults asked children to clean up before going inside for dinner and sang a tidy-up song to aid children focus on the task. Adults also supported children to sleep by sitting with them, speaking quietly, and gently stroking children until they fell asleep.

Adults supported children's relationships which is important for children's social and emotional development. For example, children were chatting through the fence with older children within the school community and siblings attending the pre-school were playing together. Adults responded to children who became upset offering comfort and reassuring children with kind words to support regulation. Children's sense of identity, belonging and progress

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was fostered through displays of children's artwork and birthdays, and displays of children's learning were visible in story format.

The games that children were playing were child led and adults encouraged and praised children's efforts. The adults supported children's play by providing resources that the children requested and by helping children in their play when needed. Adults responded to children's requests. For example, a child requested to have a picnic outside and the adult agreed to this for afternoon snack. Facilitating children to lead enhances children's confidence.

The indoor room environments were laid out with some areas of interest to include a home and pretend play area, art area and Montessori work. Toys and materials were available on low level open shelving that were labelled with pictures and print which helps children's sense of order. Tables and chairs were an appropriate child size and a cosy area with a soft rug and cushions was available for children to take a break or a rest. Children were observed being engaged in play and activity outside with a variety of materials and toys. Children were planting, playing a water game with plastic balls, playing on a wooden obstacle ladder and playing on slides. Other children were playing a ball game and riding around on tricycles and sit-in cars. There was adult seating provided and the outdoor surface was artificial.

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 to the service was appropriately secured to prevent unauthorised access or a child exiting the service unsupervised.
- The outdoor area was fully enclosed and secure.
- Cord blinds were secured.
- Cables and flexes were secured and out of reach of children.
- A television was securely mounted.
- Toys and play equipment were in good condition.

Infection Control:

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- The premises, environments, equipment and materials appeared clean and were maintained in a hygienic condition. Cleaning records were displayed and updated.
- Warm running water and liquid soap was available for handwashing which took place at regular intervals including after toileting, nappy changing, and outdoor play and before meals.
- The service's procedures were followed during nappy changing.
- Each child has a separate sheet and blanket that were stored individually in a labelled bag. Staff confirmed that sheets are laundered weekly.
- Staff were aware of steps to take if a child becomes ill and the exclusion criteria for contagious illnesses.

Administration of Medication:

- Staff were knowledgeable on the procedure for the administration of medication as per the service medication policy.

Safe Sleep:

- Staff described the physical checks that they carry out on sleeping children in line with national safe-sleep guidance and records of same were reviewed.
- Staff also described how they monitor the sleep room temperature which was maintained within the required range.

Fire Safety:

- Emergency escape routes and exits were unobstructed and clearly signposted.
- Staff members outlined the procedure to evacuate children in the event of a fire and knew the location of the assembly point.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. In the Bluebell room, two children were eating whole grapes which poses a risk of choking. It is acknowledged that the registered provider cut the grapes on request of the inspector.
2. A bottle of disinfectant was stored on a low shelf in the nappy changing area which could be accessed by children who use the sanitary area independently. This poses a risk of poisoning.

Infection Control:

3. Effective handwashing was not facilitated within the service posing a risk of cross contamination. Paper towels used by children and adults to dry hands after handwashing were not in a dispenser in the Jasmine and Bluebell rooms, and in the nappy changing area.

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4. Children were eating perishable items to include cheese and cooked meat, that were stored in lunchboxes in children's bags instead of being refrigerated. This poses a risk of bacteria multiplying within the food and causing a child to become seriously ill.
5. The pillows that children used for sleep were stored together in a press in the hallway, instead of being stored individually using a labelled system. This poses the risk of cross contamination.

Administration of Medication:

- See Statutory Notice section in relation to Improvement Notice IN0182

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

The register provider stated that:

1. The grapes were cut immediately. All staff were given a safety briefing on choking risks and reminded to ensure that small fruits and vegetables are cut before being served to children. The food policy was updated, and staff were trained on safe food preparation, supervision, and sitting with children while they eat. Parents were informed about sending in acceptable foods, to include chopped grapes.
2. The bottle of cleaning agent was removed immediately and placed out of reach of children. All areas were inspected to ensure no hazardous substances were accessible to children. Staff received refresher training. The chemical storage policy was reviewed, and a designated staff member was assigned responsibility to conduct regular safety audits and monitor compliance.
3. Wall mounted paper towel dispensers were installed immediately and were stocked with paper towels. Hand washing stations were checked and staff were reminded of infection control procedures. An audit of hand-washing facilities was completed to ensure compliance.
4. Staff were instructed to ensure that lunch boxes containing perishable foods are removed from children's bag and placed in a designated refrigerator each morning. Parents were informed of the requirements for refrigerating perishable foods. Refrigeration facilities were checked to ensure adequate space and appropriate temperatures. A Lunch box storage procedure was implemented, and management will regularly monitor the practice of refrigerating perishable foods.
5. All pillows were immediately separated, labelled with each child's name, and placed in individual storage bags. The press was cleaned and disinfected. The sleep and rest policy was updated accordingly, and staff received refresher training. Regular audit of bedding storage was added to the service's health and safety inspection schedule.

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Supporting documentation submitted

Supporting documentation was submitted by the registered provider and reviewed by the inspector.

Summary Comment

The actions, as stated by the registered provider, adequately addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 23.

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) The registered provider ensured that a person trained as a first aid responder was available to children at all times, as evidenced by a review of the roster. A current certificate of First Aid Responder (FAR) training was available for one staff member.
- (2) A suitable equipped first aid box was available.
 - (a) The first aid box was stored safely in a conspicuous position on a shelf in the care rooms.
 - (b) The first aid box was available to children at all times.