

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DS169
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	An Turas
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Jobstown Childcare Centre Ltd, Fortunestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Co. Dublin
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<b>Eircode:</b>	D24 K462
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Lisa Murphy
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<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	20/01/2026
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	81	PM	60
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Level 7 Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Kilmainham Dublin 8
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	R Phillips, E Mulhern
<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>	N/A
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### Description of service

An Túras is a not-for-profit service, that provides full day care, part time and sessional childcare to children from three months to six years of age. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme. The service operates out of an adapted ground floor premises, in a mixed-use development, from 08:00-18:00 Monday to Friday. There are eight care rooms in the service and a designated sleep room. There is a fully enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the building, which the children can access directly from each care room.

### Staffing

There are 31 staff employed in the service, including the registered provider, who is the manager. One member of staff supports with administrative duties. There are two cooks, maintenance staff, two household staff and 25 childcare practitioners employed.

### 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)(2)(4) Management and recruitment,
- 11(1)(2)(8)(a) Staffing levels,

19 (1) (b) Health Welfare and Development of the child,

23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child,

25 First Aid and

26 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c) (4) Fire Safety measures.

However, on inspection additional non-compliance which posed a risk was identified under

Regulation 20(1)(b) Facilities for rest and play.

These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations within this report.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation 19 (1) (b) Health Welfare and Development of the child and regulation 23 - Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child as a result, the scope of the inspection included Cubs, Tigers, Butterfly's, Bumble bees and Lions rooms.

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, the deputy person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

### Part III – Management and Staff

#### Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

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

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

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

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

#### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) There was a designated person in charge and named person to deputise as required.
  - (b) The person in charge was present when the inspectors arrived unannounced for the inspection. The named person in charge remained on the premises throughout the inspection.
  - (c) There was a clear management structure in place. The manager and staff demonstrated an awareness of their roles and lines of authority within the service.
- (2) Following discussion with the person in charge it was confirmed that two new staff commenced employment since the last inspection on 04 April 2025. Full staff files were reviewed in respect of these two adults. All 31 staff files were inspected in relation to regulation 9(2)(c) and met regulatory requirements as follows:
- (a)(b)

Three references had been sourced from past employers, one from a reputable source and all had a record of verification as required.

(c) Garda Vetting had been sourced for all adults. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda Vetting every three years for all other adults employed.

(d) Police Vetting was not required for either of the adults employed by the service.

(4) A record was available evidencing that the adults working directly with the children held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or equivalent

### Part III – Management and Staff

#### Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

*(1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.*

*(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.*

*(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-*

*(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times,*

#### Compliance Information

(1) An adequate number of adults were working with the children. There were 18 staff working directly with 81 children in the morning, and 16 staff working with 60 children in the afternoon.

(2) The minimum adult to child ratio requirement for the age of children and type of service provided was always maintained, on the day of inspection.

(8)(a) There were at least two adults on the premises throughout the inspection. The staff roster provided for at least two adults to be on the premises at all times of opening.

### 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

(1)(b)

Drinking water was available to the children throughout the inspection. The children were given meals and snacks at regular intervals. The service has a healthy eating policy and provided healthy nutritious food prepared onsite on the day of inspection.

The staff spoke kindly to the children and met their individual needs in a responsive manner.

The staff encouraged the older children to be independent in their personal care. The younger children's nappies were changed at regular intervals and between as required. The staff used each opportunity to engage with the children in a kind, friendly manner.

The activities were observed to be child led, with children observed opting out of group activities to rest.

A Cot room was available for younger children to sleep and older children had use of low beds. No children displayed signs of over-tiredness. Staff reported that children can sleep outside of the routine times if they show signs of tiredness.

Record sheets were completed by staff to communicate the details of each child's day for parents.

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

#### Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

*(1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-*

*(b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.*

#### Non-Compliance Information

1(b) Appropriate rest facilities were not provided for all children under two years in the Lions room.

One child aged one year was observed sleeping on a stackable bed rather than a suitable floor bed.

This may impact the safety and quality of sleep for children under 2 years.

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

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

Appropriate rest facilities were incorporated into the Lions sleep room.

The service will ensure in future that appropriate sleep facilities will be available when children transition from one room to another.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

A photo of a cot in Lions sleep room for a child under two years.

### Summary Comment

The actions taken by the service and evidence submitted, were reviewed by the Early Years Inspectorate and deemed to address the noncompliance.

## 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

The inspector found by observation of practice, review of documentation, discussion with staff and inspection of the premises that the registered provider had taken the following steps to safeguard children attending:

#### **General Safety:**

The entrance door to the service was adequately secured to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised.

All storage facilities were inaccessible to children and cleaning products were stored in locked cupboards or out of reach on high shelving.

The kitchen was inaccessible to the children.

All toys examined were in good condition and equipment was suitable, age appropriate and in good working order.

The outdoor area was enclosed, with artificial grass covering the ground. The sand and water trays had lids and staff completed risk assessments were observed.

#### **Infection Control:**

The care rooms, nappy changing areas and sanitary areas were observed to be clean. Cleaning schedules were also completed in those areas.

There was thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid soap and paper towels for handwashing in the sanitary areas and care rooms.

Sheets and cellular blankets were stored separately for the children and staff stated cleaned weekly. Soft covers on cushions in the rest areas are cleaned regularly according to staff in the onsite laundry room.

### **Administration of Medication:**

Staff demonstrated an awareness of how to administer medicine safely if required. Emergency medication was available for a child whom staff reported was at risk of anaphylaxis due to allergies. Supporting documents were provided including parental consent and the procedure to follow should the medicine be required.

All medicines were in original packaging, in date and stored safely in the office.

### **Safe Sleep:**

The room temperatures were maintained between 18-20° C and documented.

Sleep checks records were maintained.

### **Fire Safety:**

Fire exits were signposted and unobstructed throughout the service.

Staff identified the fire assembly point for the Inspector.

### **Outing:**

The registered provider stated that the service did not bring the children on outings.

## **Non-Compliance Information**

### **Infection Control:**

1. In Butterfly's room and Lions room, none of the children washed their hands prior to the staff serving them their dinner. This was at variance with the services infection control policy, which states that children are encouraged and reminded to wash their hands after using the toilet, before eating and after playing outside.

2. A separate bin for disposing of paper towels after handwashing was not available in the Lions nappy changing room. Children were observed handling the nappy bin when disposing of paper towels while staff were washing their own hands, cleaning the mat and recording the nappy change. This posed a risk of cross contamination to the children and subsequent risk of illness.

## **Action submitted by the Registered Provider**

### Corrective & Preventive Action

#### **Infection Control:**

All staff were given a copy of the infection control policy, to ensure confidence and competence in infection control during everyday tasks. The staff team will continue to engage in ongoing learning to maintain standards.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

#### **Infection Control:**

A copy of staff signatures evidencing training/ reading infection control policy.

Photographs of new separate hands-free lidded bins for disposal of paper towels and nappies.

### **Summary Comment**

The actions taken and evidence submitted were reviewed and deemed to have adequately addressed the noncompliance.

## 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) It was confirmed by review of staff files and discussion with the registered provider that three staff held in date First Aid Responder (FAR) training certificates. The roster evidenced that one or more were available to the children at all times of opening.

(2)(a) Adequately equipped first aid boxes (2) were safely stored in conspicuous locations that were easily accessible throughout the service.

(b) The first aid boxes were available to the children in the service at all times.

## 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 fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.
- (2) The record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection by-
- (c) an authorised person.
- (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) A record was available detailing fire drills that had taken place in the service. The record showed the last fire drill had taken place on 11 December 2025.
  - (b) There was a record to show that the firefighting equipment had been serviced on 04 May 2025 and that maintenance of the fire detection and alarm system was last carried out on 16 January 2026.
- (2) (c) The records were made available for inspection.
- (4) The procedures to be followed during a fire drill and in the event of a fire were displayed in conspicuous locations throughout the service.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 27 – Supervision

*A registered provider shall ensure that pre-school children attending the service are supervised at all times.*

#### Compliance Information

The children were observed to be appropriately supervised throughout the inspection. This included within the care rooms, when eating, when sleeping, when using the sanitary facilities and when transitioning between different areas of the premises.