

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUTUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DY049			
<b>Name of Service:</b>	Little Rascals / Clever Cloggs			
<b>Address of Service:</b>	79-81 Celtic Park Avenue, Whitehall, Dublin 9, Co. Dublin			
<b>Eircode:</b>	D09VP27			
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Louise O'Hara			
<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional			
<b>Dates of Inspection:</b>	07/03/2024			
<b>Date 2 of Inspection:</b>	08/03/2024			
<b>No of pre-school children Day 1:</b>	AM	48	PM	27
<b>No of Pre-School Children Day 2:</b>	AM	39		
<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Floor 7 Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, St John's Road West, Kilmainham, Dublin 8 D08 X01F			
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	E. Griffin and A. Dunne			
<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).

### Conditions if applicable

Not applicable.

### Description of service

Little Rascals / Clever Cloggs is one of two services operated by the registered provider. The service provides care for children aged from 6 months to 6 years old. The service operates from 7.30am to 6.00pm and provides full day, part-time and sessional care. The service participates in the Early Childhood and Education Scheme (ECE) and a School Aged Service is also provided. The service is located in a residential area in a converted three storey property in Dublin. There are five care rooms. There is a Wobbler Room, Toddler Room, Senior Montessori 1 Room and two separate cots rooms on the ground floor. On the first floor there is a Junior Montessori Room and Senior Montessori 2 Room. There is a garden area to the rear of the property, an onsite kitchen and sanitary facilities available for staff and children.

### Staffing

On Day 1 of Inspection, there were thirteen adults present including the registered provider, the manager, eight adults working directly with the children, one student, one auxiliary staff for cooking and one contractor employed to carry out activities with the children.

On Day 2 of inspection, there were eight adults present the registered provider, the manager, five working directly with children and one adult in the kitchen. The registered provider works in the service providing support in the care rooms.

### 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 areas of governance, health, welfare and development of child and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required. The following regulations were reviewed:

Regulation 9 (1)(2)(4)-Management and Recruitment.

Regulation 11(1)(2)-Staffing Levels.

Regulation 16(i)-Record in Relation to a Preschool Service.

Regulation 19-Health, Welfare and Development of Child.

Regulation 23-Safeguarding the Health, Safety, and Welfare of child.

Regulation 25- First Aid

Regulation 28-Insurance

Regulation 29- Premises

As a result, the scope of the inspection included the Wobbler, Toddler, Senior Montessori 2 and Junior Montessori Rooms. A sampling process was used to assess compliance under: Regulation 19 and Regulation 23. However, on inspection an additional non-compliance was identified under Regulation 24(3)- Checking in and out and Record of Attendance and Regulation 27-Supervision. This finding is outlined within the relevant regulations 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

7 March 2024

An Immediate Action notice was issued to the service in relation to the following:

Regulation 23- Hand washing basins were not thermostatically controlled to ensure that hot water is no hotter than the recommended 43°C. The hot water temperature was recorded exceeding 50°C which posed a risk to the safety of children. Please see details in the body of the report.

Regulation 23 – The Outdoor Play Area was not safe due to a broken gate.

The registered provider addressed the non-compliances under Regulation 23 on 8 March 2024.

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*
- (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 service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as needed.

(b) The designated deputy person in charge was present when the inspectors arrived unannounced to the service.

(c) Inspectors' discussions with staff and a review of documentation demonstrated that there was a clearly defined management structure in the service should the named person in charge be unavailable.

(2)(a) Twenty adults in total are employed including the registered provider. The files of all 20 adults were reviewed including the file of one contractor and one auxiliary staff.

(2)(a)(b) Forty written and validated references were available in relation to the nineteen adults.

(c) Garda Vetting disclosures had been obtained for all twenty adults. 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) Police vetting was available in respect of one adult who had lived outside the jurisdiction for longer than six months as an adult.

### Non-Compliance Information

(4) Evidence was not available to show that three adults who works directly with children held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed eligible by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

This non-compliance was observed on the previous inspection in September 2023 and the preventive action had not been maintained.

## Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

### Corrective and Preventive Action

(4) Two staff members are in college completing their Level 5 in Childcare.

### Supporting documentation submitted

Verification of qualification for one staff member.

### Summary Comment

Regulation (9)(4) remains outstanding for 1 staff member.

## 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 working directly with the children as follows:

On Day 1, there were eight adults working with 48 children in the morning and five adults working with 27 children in the afternoon.

On Day 2, there were six adults working directly with 39 children in the morning.

The registered provider was available in a supportive role for break cover and nappy changing on both Day 1 and Day 2 of Inspection.

(2) The correct adult/child ratio was maintained in the service throughout the inspection as follows:

#### **Day 1 - During the morning:**

Wobbler room – 2 adults to 5 children aged between 1 to 1 ½ years.

Toddler room - 2 adults to 6 children aged between 1 ½ to 2 ½ years.

Senior Montessori 1 room downstairs –1 adult to 11 children aged between 3 to 5 years.

Junior Montessori room - 2 adults to 16 children aged between 2 to 3 years.

Senior Montessori 2 room upstairs- 1 adult to 10 children aged between 3 to 5 years.

#### **Day 1 – During the afternoon:**

Wobbler room – 1 adult to 5 children aged between 1 to 1 ½ years.

Toddler room - 1 adult to 5 children aged between 1 ½ to 2 ½ years.

Senior Montessori 1 room downstairs – 1 adult to 8 children aged between 2 to 3 years.

Senior Montessori 2 room upstairs-2 adults to 9 children aged between 3 to 5 years.

### Day 2 - During the morning:

Wobbler room – 1 adult to 4 children aged between 1 to 1 ½ years.

Toddler room - 1 adult to 5 children aged between 1 ½ to 2 ½ years.

Junior Montessori room - 2 adults to 17 children aged between 2 to 3 years.

Senior Montessori 2 room upstairs- 2 adults to 13 children aged between 3 to 5 years.

The registered provider was available to support break cover, nappy changing and provide assistance during sleep on both days of inspection.

## Part IV – Information and Records

### Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service

*(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of the following information in relation to the service:*

*(i) details of staff rosters on a daily basis;*

### Non-Compliance Information

(16)(i) There was no planned roster available for the week the inspection took place.

On Day 1, the inspectors were provided with a copy of a roster at 10.45am, following a request on their arrival to the service at 10.15am. The roster given was a one-day roster and did not:

- cover the full five-day week.
- the full names of the staff members.

On Day 2, the inspectors were provided with a copy of a roster on arrival. This roster given did not cover the full five-day week. This non-compliance was observed on the previous inspection in September 2023 and the preventive action had not been sustained.

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

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

A weekly staff rota has been typed up. This Rota includes full names of all staff. The registered provider has stated this rota is available and can be printed off at any time going forward.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence of rota.

## Summary Comment

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliance identified under Regulation 16 Record in relation to pre-school service.

## 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*
- (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) (a)

### Basic Needs:

On Day 1 and Day 2:

- Meals were freshly prepared daily on site. In the Senior Montessori 2 room children brought morning snack from home. Staff reported the weekly food menu is shared with parents/guardians and alternative meal options are available for children.
- Children's drinks were available within their reach throughout the day and children were encouraged to take plenty of drinks.

### Physical and Materials Environment:

On Day 1 and Day 2:

- The furniture provided in the rooms was low level and suitable to the needs of the children. There was a sufficient number of low tables and chairs to accommodate children whilst they played and ate in each care room. Cosy areas with soft seating, soft mats and cushions for rest and relaxation were present.
- The layout of the rooms facilitated choices as the toys and equipment were laid out on low level shelving and were visible and accessible to the children enabling the children to independently access their choice of activity. Children were observed to take part in free play, small group, and large group work.
- In the Wobbler and Toddler rooms, the play materials available to the children included:

home areas with play kitchens and a play shop with cash register with supporting equipment and play food, range of construction toys to include wooden puzzles, jigsaws, cubes, plastic building blocks, play tools and toolboxes; toys for transporting such as trucks and diggers; small world play toys of play phones, instruments; small characters of animals and dinosaurs; and push along toys.

- In the Junior and Senior 2 Montessori rooms, the play materials available to the children included: Arts and crafts materials directly accessible to the children; home areas with play kitchens with supporting equipment such as food menus and play food. There was range of construction toys to include jigsaws and wooden puzzles, wooden building blocks, plastic building bricks, stickle bricks, magnetics; sorting and stacking toys; toys for transporting such as cars trucks and a garage, trains with train tracks. In the Senior Montessori 2 room, Montessori learning approach materials supporting the areas of practical life, sensorial, language, maths and culture were also present.

(1) (b)

On Day 1 and Day 2

- In the Senior Montessori 2 room, children's independence was supported as they were encouraged to open their own lunch boxes and to clean up after snack time.
- In Senior Montessori 2 room and Junior Montessori room, the children were observed to be facilitated to make their own choice in selecting play equipment and activities that they wished to engage with at free play time.
- Children's language development was supported through one to one and group discussions, songs and storytelling which were observed during the inspection. Turn taking and sharing was promoted in the Wobbler, Toddler, Junior Montessori and Senior Montessori 2 rooms, this was evidenced by children working collaboratively together at circle time and taking turns to answer questions.

### Non-Compliance Information

#### Basic Needs:

On Day 1:

1. In the Wobbler room, the children were not observed to go outside to play. Children need fresh air and opportunities to play outdoors every day to ensure their social, cognitive, and gross and fine motor developmental needs are met.

#### Supporting Relationships:

2. In the Wobbler room, at 11.41am during dinner time, two staff members sat in front of four children in highchairs, assisting feeding with their back to one child sitting at a table alone eating independently. This

reduced the opportunity for social interaction, conversation and meaningful engagement between the staff members and the child for the duration of mealtime.

3. In the Wobbler and Toddler rooms, no daily record of the children's daily routine including food and drink intake, nappy changes and sleep were documented for communication with parents/guardians.

### Physical and Material Environment:

On Day 2:

4. In the Toddler Room, of the four books that were directly accessible to the children in a net holder on the wall, two of them were torn and therefore would not fulfil a child's engagement. This non-compliance was observed on the two previous inspections in 2022 and in 2023 and the preventive action had not been maintained.

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

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

1. A garden rota is available for staff to follow and ensure that the children are provided with outdoor time. Management will check daily that the children are going to the garden.
2. The Dinner Time layout has been reviewed and staff now sit with all children as a group allowing them full view of all children. Staff have been shown the new layout.
3. New daily record sheets are in use. These were available on day 2 of inspection. Staff have been provided with the new daily record sheets to use going forward.
4. Books were available on the day of inspection but were out of reach of the children have been put down to the children's level allowing them easy access. Staff have been informed that books need to be accessible to children at all times.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

1. Photographic evidence of garden rota.
2. Photographic evidence of dinner layout.
3. Photographic evidence of new daily record.
4. Photographic evidence of books low down.

### Summary Comment

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 19 Health, welfare and development of child.

### 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 leading into the premises was appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises.
- Medication was stored safely out of the reach to the children.
- The Radiators were observed to have protective covers.

##### Infection Control:

- Nappy changing facilities were available for the children and nappy changing was completed for the children, at set times or when required.
- Windows were opened throughout the day to allow fresh air to circulate in the care rooms.

##### Safe Sleep:

On Day 1, during sleep time, the following was observed:

- The sleep needs for children between the age of one to two years of age, were facilitated with access to cots for sleep.
- The sleep needs of children over two years of age were met through the provision of low beds.
- Children were provided with cellular blankets for sleep.
- Shoes and clothing were removed from children while they slept.
- The temperature of the cot room, off the wobbler room was recorded as 19.5°C at 12.24pm while five children slept, and the temperature of the Toddler room at sleep time was recorded as 18.8°C at 12.34pm while six children slept, meeting the acceptable temperature of 18-22 °C while children over 1 years old sleep.

##### Fire Safety:

- The emergency exit doors were clear from obstruction. This helps ensure the safe effective evacuation of children and staff in the event of an emergency.

#### Non-Compliance Information

### General Safety:

#### On Day 1:

1. The Outdoor Play Area was observed to be unsafe due to a broken gate giving children access to an adjoining garden. An Immediate Action Notice was issued on the day of the inspection. The registered provider addressed the non-compliance on 8 March 2024.
2. The hot water in the wash hand basin of the Wobbler Nappy Changing Room did not have thermostatically controlled water; the temperature was recorded as 63.8° C at 12.13 pm, exceeding the allowable maximum temperature of 43°C, leading to a risk of injury. An Immediate Action Notice was issued on the day of the inspection. The registered provider addressed the non-compliance on 8 March 2024.
3. Garda vetting was available for nineteen adults. However, eight of 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'. This posed a safeguarding concern.
4. Children attendance books were not monitored to ensure staff knew how many children were present in the care rooms. As evidenced as follows:
  - Staff from Senior Montessori 1 room on the ground floor, did not bring the room attendance record book with them while the 11 children attended an extra-curricular activity in the Senior Montessori 2 room on the first floor between 10.15am-10.46am.
  - In the Junior Montessori room, there were 14 children observed to be present at 12.31pm. On review of the attendance book there were 18 children marked present. The children who had gone home at 12pm had not been marked out.
  - In the Senior Montessori 2 room there were nine children observed to be present at 13.33pm. On review of the attendance book there were eleven children marked present. The children who had gone home at 12pm had not been marked out.
  - In the Toddler room, there were five children observed to be present at 15.14pm, on review of the attendance book there was four children marked present a child who arrived at 1pm for the afternoon session had not been marked present.

This reduced the effective evacuation in the event of an emergency.

5. The kitchen area was accessible to children as the door remained open which posed a risk of injury. It is acknowledged that the door was closed on the Day 2 of the inspection.

6. Cleaning agents were not stored safely out of the reach to the children, the door of the room where cleaning agents were observed to be stored at the end of the stairs opposite the kitchen was not locked, which posed a risk of injury.
7. In both the Wobbler room and the Junior Montessori room, two loose blind cords were observed, which posed an injury risk to children. It is acknowledged that one of the two loose blind cords observed on Day 1 was tightened in the Wobbler room on Day 2.
8. Flexes and cables were observed to be accessible to the children, evidenced as follows.
  - In the corridor of the service, a laminator with a trailing flex was observed to be sitting on the radiator cover.
  - At the end of the stairs of the service, a basket which openly stored two laminators was accessible to children.
  - In the Wobbler room, a frayed wire was accessible in the cosy area.
  - In the Junior Montessori room, two mobile phone charging cables were observed to be placed on top of building blocks in a drawer accessible to the children.

which posed a risk of injury.

### Infection Control:

On Day 1:

The practices and equipment in the service did not ensure that effective infection control measures were in place to reduce the spread of inspection.

9. In the Wobbler room:
  - During mealtime at 11.41am, staff were observed to position bowls containing food on the floor for placement belonging to one child and while feeding another child.
  - Staff were observed to use hand wipes for cleaning the children's hands before and after dinner, this would not be an effective method of handwashing.
  - A soother for one child was observed to be stored openly in a labelled basket of the child's belongings.
10. In the Wobbler Cot room:
  - There were no washable wipeable covers on two mattresses in cots used for sleeping children. This non-compliance was observed on the previous inspection in September 2023 and the preventive action had not been maintained.
  - Cots were not positioned to be 50cms apart at sleep time on Day 1 and Day 2.

11. In the Junior Montessori Room, the foot pedal bin was not working. Staff members were observed to open the bin using their hands.
12. In the Junior Montessori sanitary area,
  - The two bins were not foot pedal operated. Children were observed to open the bin using their hands to dispose of hand paper towels after hand washing.
  - Hand paper towels were stored in in an open rusty container on the radiator.
  - Nappies and hand paper towels were stored within arm's reach of one of the toilets. In addition, clean nappies were observed to be hanging in bag on the wall stored directly above a sanitary bin beside the sink.
13. In the Senior Montessori 2 room,
  - Perishable snacks such as yoghurts and cheese brought by the children from home for morning snack time were not stored in a fridge, this increases the risk of bacteria multiplying to levels which could result in food contamination.
  - The water temperature recorded in the hand basin was 8° C at 12.05pm, this is not conducive to effective hand washing.
14. There was an open laundry basket with unclean laundry positioned opposite the kitchen area in the main area at the bottom of the stairs.

On Day 2:

15. In the Toddler cot room:
  - there were no washable wipeable cover on one mattress used in the cot. This non-compliance was observed on the previous inspection in September 2023 and the preventive action had not been maintained.

In the Toddler room

- Low beds were not positioned 50 cm apart at sleep time.
- The pedal of the pedal bin was not working.

**Safe Sleep:**

On Day 1:

16. The temperature of the Toddler room while children slept was not recorded to ensure it was maintained between the recommended 18-22°C.

## Action submitted by the Registered Provider

### Corrective & Preventive Action

#### General Safety:

1. The gate was fixed on Day 2 of inspection. The service has updated the outdoor risk assessment to ensure all escape routes are secured.
2. The water temperature was fixed on Day 2 of inspection. The thermostat was turned up too high, it is now lowered down and water temperature was reading at 36.6°C on Day 2 of inspection. Water temperature checks have been added to the daily risk assessment.
3. Garda vetting for the eight staff members was updated and are now on file. The registered provider has stated that management will keep on top of the new renewal dates to ensure they don't lapse.
4. Attendance books now completed. All staff have been addressed on the importance of keeping the roll books up to date.
5. Kitchen door now has a baby safety gate. This gate is now included in the service daily walk around checks to ensure that it is locked.
6. Storage press is now in an area that the children don not have unsupervised access to. It has also been fitted with a lift and out method of opening so that the children cannot operate it and has a lock fitted too. Locked storage press is now included in the service daily walk around checks to ensure it is locked.
7. Blinds are now fixed and secure. Blinds are now included in the service daily walk around checks to ensure they are secure.
8. The cables were boxed in, the phone cables have been removed from the room and the laminators are now stored in the office. Staff have been informed of the dangers of leaving these items lying around.

#### Infection Control:

9. Wobbler Room:
  - Staff now use tables to place the food bowls on.
  - The use of cleaning hands using baby wipes has now been replaced with handwashing. Staff have been informed of the importance of hand washing instead of using wipes.
  - Personal tubs for soothers are provided for each child to store their soothers. Staff have been informed to ensure each child is provided with a soother tub.
10. Wobbler Cot Room:
  - Mattress protectors were purchased. The Daily Risk assessment has now been updated to ensure protectors are on all mattresses.

- Cots have been rearranged to ensure they are 50cms apart. New sleep floor plans have been provided for all staff.
11. Junior Montessori Room:
- The pedal bin has now been replaced. Pedal bin checks are now added to the classroom daily risk assessment.
12. Junior Montessori Sanitary Area:
- New pedal bins have been purchased.
  - The paper hand towel holder has been replaced.
  - A new area is provided for nappy and paper towel storage. Staff have been informed of the new storage area.
13. Senior Montessori 2 Room:
- Snacks are now stored in the fridge. Staff have been informed to use the fridge. It is included in the classroom daily risk assessment.
  - The water temperature is now correct the dialler was turned down. Water temperature checks are now included in the bathroom risk assessment.
14. The laundry basket is now stored in the utility room. Staff are aware of the new area to store the laundry.
15. Day 2, Toddler cot room:
- Mattress protectors were purchased. The Daily Risk assessment has now been updated to ensure protectors are on all mattresses.
  - In the toddler room beds have now been rearranged to ensure they are 50cms apart. New sleep floor plans have been provided for all staff.
  - In the toddler room the pedal bin is now replaced.

### Safe Sleep:

16. Temperatures are now controlled and documented. Staff were informed to place thermometer lower.

### Supporting documentation submitted

#### General Safety:

1. Photographic evidence of the fixed gate and daily risk assessment.
2. Photographic evidence of water temperature reading at 36.6°C and daily risk assessment.
3. Garda Vetting Disclosures for the eight staff members.
4. Photographic evidence of daily risk assessment including checking register for accurate attendance.
5. Photographic evidence of baby safety gate on kitchen door and daily risk assessment.

6. Photographic evidence of lock on cleaning agent door and daily risk assessment.
7. Photographic evidence of all blinds secure and daily risk assessment.
8. Photographic evidence of daily risk assessment including checks for trailing wires and flexes.

### Infection Control:

9. Photographic evidence of soothers stored in soother boxes individually labelled.
10. No documentation submitted.
11. Photographic evidence of new foot pedal operated bin and daily risk assessment.
12. Photographic evidence of new foot pedal operated bins, new hand paper towel holder and new storage area for hand paper towels and nappies.
13. Photographic evidence of the children's lunch boxes stored in fridge.
14. Photographic evidence of new utility area.

### Safe Sleep:

15. Email receipt of waterproof mattress protectors purchased and photographic evidence of new pedal bin.

### Summary Comment

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 23 Safeguarding the Health, Safety, and Welfare of child.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance

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

*(a) no person other than-*

*(i) pre-school child attending the service,*

*(ii) a person dropping or collecting such a child,*

*(iii) an employee, or*

*(iv) an unpaid worker, can enter the premises without his or her entry being approved by an employee, and*

*(b) a daily record in writing is kept of the entry on the premises of any such person.*

### Non-Compliance Information

(3)(a)(b) On Day 1, the inspectors were not asked to sign into the visitor book. It is acknowledged that the inspectors were asked to sign in on Day 2 of inspection.

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

### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

The visitor book is available at all times and displayed in the entrance porch with easy access now.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

No documentation submitted.

### **Summary Comment**

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliance under Regulation 24 Checking in and out and record of attendance.

## 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 service provided evidence that four adults were trained in First Aid Response were available at all times to the children attending the pre-school.

### **Non-Compliance Information**

On Day 1:

(2)(a) & (b) The first aid boxes which were easily accessible to adults and available on the premises were not suitably equipped. Evidenced by the following:

- In the three first aid boxes observed on the day of inspection the following items were missing: Adhesive plasters, sterile eye pads, individually wrapped sterile unmedicated wound dressings, individually wrapped disinfectant wipes and water-based burns dressing small and large.

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

### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

The first aid boxes have been replaced with new ones. Management will check the first aid boxes more regularly.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

Photographic evidence of the new first aid boxes.

### Summary Comment

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliance under Regulation 25 First Aid.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 27 – Supervision

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

### Non-Compliance Information

On Day 1, in the Wobbler room, between 8am and 10.45am, one adult was working alone with five children. This adult did not hold 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 and was not supervised by a qualified staff member.

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

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

The staff member is in college completing her Level 5 in Childcare. The registered provider has stated that the staff member is currently not in ratio. The registered provider will ensure that all staff in ratio are qualified.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

No documentation submitted.

### Summary Comment

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliance under Regulation 27 Supervision.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

### Compliance Information

The registered provider ensured the service was adequately insured. The insurance certificate provided for review showed cover for the number of children the service can accommodate at one time and an expiry date 27 March 2024.

### Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

#### Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

#### Compliance Information

##### On Day 1 and Day 2:

- (c) There was sufficient lighting in the service.
- (e) The nappy units were observed to be in good condition, therefore the preventive action from the last inspection had been maintained.

#### Non-Compliance Information

(d) On Day 1, the inspectors observed that the premises was not cleaned or maintained to provide a clean and safe environment for children. Evidenced by the following:

1. In the Wobbler Nappy changing room, there were two taps loose, which posed a pinch risk.
2. in the Toddler cot room, there was a hand fist sized hole at child's level in the wall located beside a cot.
3. in the Junior Montessori Room, there was a cabinet of drawers with a broken door handle.
4. In the Wobbler room, Junior Montessori room and Senior Montessori 2 room, the furniture and cushions used in the cosy areas were observed to be visibly dirty.
5. In the Toddler room:
  - there was uneven flooring observed near the door to the sanitary facility.
  - there was tape, cobwebs and black mould on frame of the window.
6. In Toddler room sanitary areas:
  - the floor was uneven between the two sanitary rooms.
  - There was mould on the frame of the window behind the toilet.
7. The glass door between the Wobbler room and the Senior Montessori 1 room was observed to be cracked. It is acknowledged on day 2 of inspection it was sealed with Tape.
8. On the downstairs corridor, the paint on the radiator cover was peeling off reducing the effectiveness for cleaning.

9. On the upstairs corridor, there was visible dust observed where the coats and bags are hung for the children from the Junior Montessori care room.
10. At the top of the stairs beside the stair gate paint was observed to be peeling of the wall.
11. In the outdoor area:
  - There was a gutter leaking water into the back garden behind the toy house.
  - The area was observed to be cluttered and unclean with litter.
  - The storage shed was broken with a hole with sharp edges on the top part.

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

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

1. Taps are in the process of being fixed the work is not completed as yet.
2. The hole has now been taped off. Staff informed the importance of checking the hole is inaccessible to children at all times.
3. This cabinet was removed from the room to be fixed. This is now included in daily risk assessment that all equipment is in good working order.
4. All upholstery was cleaned. Staff have been informed of importance of keeping soft furnishings clean at all times.
5. The floor has been repaired in the Toddler room (May weekend) and the tape, cobwebs and black mould on frame of the window has been cleaned/treated. Floor checks will be included in daily walk around checks.
6. The floor which was uneven between the two sanitary rooms has now been repaired and the mould on the frame of the window behind the toilet has been cleaned/treated.
7. The glass in the door between the Wobbler room and Senior Montessori 1 has been replaced. Glass door checks are now included in service risk assessments that all fixtures and fittings are in good working order.
8. The radiator cover has been painted. This is now included in general running that all maintenance is up to date.
9. Dust has been removed from the rail. Checking for dust is now included in the daily risk assessment.
10. The wall was sanded and repainted at the top of the stairs. Walls are now included in general maintenance checks.
11. The gutter which was blocked causing an overflow has been cleared. The area behind the toy house has been cleared. The storage shed hole has been sealed. Gutters and checking the outdoor area are now included in general maintenance checks.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

1. No evidence submitted as work has not been completed.
2. Photographic evidence of hole behind cot covered up.
3. Photographic evidence of the cabinet draw handle fixed and daily risk assessment.
4. No evidence submitted.
5. Photographic evidence of floor fixed and the window cleaned.
6. Photographic evidence of floor fixed and the window cleaned.
7. Photographic evidence of the new glass on the door.
8. Photographic evidence of the radiator cover painted.
9. No evidence submitted.
10. Photographic evidence of the wall sanded and freshly painted.
11. Photographic evidence of storage shed hole sealed, the area behind the toy house clear of clutter and risk assessment.

### **Summary Comment**

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation (29)(d) for points 2-11. The non-compliance for point 1 remains outstanding but it is acknowledged that there is a plan in place to rectify this issue.