

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY142
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Name of Service:	Moatview Nursery & Early Education Centre Ltd by guarantee
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Address of Service:	35A Moatview Avenue, Priorswood, Coolock, Dublin 17.
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Eircode:	D17 X677
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Name of Registered Provider:	Susin Russell
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Service type:	Part Time, Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	01/05/2026
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No of pre-school children:	AM	23	PM	11
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Floor 7 Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, St John's Road West, Kilmainham, Dublin 8 D08 X01F
Inspection undertaken by:	E. Griffin
Title:	Early Years Inspector

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

Moatview Nursery and Early Education Centre Ltd by guarantee is a community-based service that has been in operation since 1994. This preschool service is registered to provide early education and care for up to thirty-two sessional children or twenty-nine-part time children aged between 2 to 6 years old at one time. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme and operates two morning ECCE sessions from 08:30am to 11.30am with an optional part time session for children to stay till 13:00pm and two afternoon sessions from 12.00pm to 15.00pm and 12:15pm to 15:15pm from Monday to Friday.

The service operates from two floors of a terraced house which has been converted solely for the use of a preschool facility. On the ground floor there are two care rooms: The Playroom and The Work Room which are separated by an entrance hall. There is also access to a kitchen, sanitary accommodation, and an office. On the first floor there are three care rooms: The Pencil Room, The Yoga Room, and The Sensory Room. There is also sanitary accommodation and a staff room. The Pencil Room is used to accommodate children on a part-time basis following the conclusion of their sessional hours. The Yoga Room and The Sensory Room are used as additional rooms to the ground floor care rooms to provide extra opportunities for play. On the day of the inspection children were observed to rotate through the different rooms in a safe and structured manner. There is an outdoor area at the rear, side and front of the property which provides onsite outdoor play facilities.

Staffing

The service is operated by the registered provider and the deputy person in charge who work in a oversee the operational management of the service and work in a supernumerary capacity. There nine adults employed to work directly with the children including two adults who are employed under the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM). In addition, there are two adults who work for an outside agency and provides support to one of the children in the care room.

The registered provider, deputy person in charge, nine adults and one cook were present on the morning 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

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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.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under the following regulations: Regulation 19 (1)(a)-Health, Welfare and Development of Child and Regulation 23 Safeguarding the Health, Safety, and Welfare of Child. As a result, the scope of the inspection included all care rooms and the outdoor play area.

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.

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Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes 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 IAN 0341	01/05/2026	Evidence of police vetting was not available for one adult working directly with the children.
Status	Action was taken by the registered provider immediately following service of the Notice and the provider submitted a written response with detailed corrective and preventative actions which were accepted by the inspectorate.	

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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.

Compliance Information

(1)

- (a) The service had a designated person in charge and named person to deputise as required.
- (b) The person in charge and deputy person in charge were present in the service when the inspector arrived and remained in the service for the duration of the inspection. A designated person in charge was rostered to be on the premises during the opening hours of the service on the day of inspection.
- (c) There was a clear management structure in place, and staff reported being aware of this.

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- (2) The file of the registered provider, eleven adults and two agency staff were reviewed as part of the inspection, and the following checks were completed.
- (a) There were eighteen written and validated references available from a past employer
 - (b) There were ten written and validated references available from reputable source
 - (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for the registered provider and thirteen adults. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
 - (d) Police vetting was available for two of the three adults who had lived in a country other than Ireland for a period of six months or more as an adult.
- (4) The registered provider and eleven adults who work directly with the 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, Disability, and Equality.

Non-Compliance Information

- (2) (d) See Statutory Notice section in relation to Improvement Notice IAN 0342 served.
- (3) The registered provider did not ensure the checks required under (2) were completed prior to the start date of one staff member.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (2) (d) See Statutory Notice section in relation to Improvement Notice IAN 0342 served.
- (3) New employees must provide international police clearance if lived abroad for more than a six-month period before commencing employment.

Supporting documentation submitted

- (3) No evidence provided

Summary Comment

The registered provider has addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 9.

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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) The registered provider ensured that there was an adequate number of adults working with the children throughout the inspection. There were ten adults caring for twenty-three children during the morning and five adults caring for eleven children during the afternoon of inspection.
- (2) The adult child ratios were correct when the inspector arrived unannounced to the service and throughout the inspection. Staff were aware of the required ratios for the age range of children.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, welfare and development of child

- (1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that-*
- (a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child, and*

Compliance Information

- (1) (a) The following activities, interactions, materials and equipment was observed to support children's learning and development:
- Staff were observed to be kind, caring and respectful in their interactions with the children which supported a calm atmosphere in the service.
 - The service also provided a hot meal option for children which was prepared on site. Different dietary requirements were catered for example, at dinnertime burgers, pasta and vegetables were served at

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12:00pm and extra portions were available if required and an alternative vegetarian pasta dish was available.

- Children's labelled water bottles were available within their reach throughout the session, should they feel thirsty at any stage.
- Staff were observed to give children verbal reminders in advance of moving from one activity to the next activity. This provided the children with a sense of stability, security, and predictability.
- The Playroom and Work room were observed to be bright and welcoming. These rooms were well designed to support children's learning and development. Indoor spaces included age-appropriate toys, defined play areas. Toys and equipment were stored in low shelving making them easily accessible to the children attending the service.
- A rest area was available to the children in the main care room. This area included a soft mat, soft cushions, and books providing the children with a comfortable place to rest or engage in quiet activities. In addition, the sensory room and yoga room were equipped with soft mats and low lighting providing the children with an area for rest and relaxation.
- Displays of the children's artwork and a community wall display promoted as sense of belonging for the children.
- There are three outdoor areas for the children to engage in activities and play. The main outdoor area located to the back of the service included a covered section which provided shelter and protection from harsh weather conditions, as well as comfortable seating for rest and relaxation. Staff discussed how the middle garden can be used by the children for gardening activities and the area to the front of the service can be used to provide children with a quieter outdoor space if required. Children were observed to play outdoors. This supported their social, cognitive, and gross and fine motor development.

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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:

- On the unannounced arrival at the service by the inspector, 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 throughout the inspection.
- The inspector was asked to show identification by a staff member who inside the gate.
- Cleaning agents were stored safely and locked away out of reach of children.
- There were no trailing flexes or wires observed to be accessible to the children.
- The outdoor area was appropriately securely fenced and gated and children who played outdoors were adequately supervised.

Infection Control:

- The sanitary accommodation was equipped with warm running water, liquid soap, and hand paper towels hygienically dispensed. Children were familiar with handwashing.
- An ambient temperature of 18-22°C was maintained in the care room, and the windows were open to allow fresh circulation of air.
- Foot pedal operated bins were available in the care rooms and sanitary areas to allow hygienic disposal of contaminated materials.

Administration of Medication:

- Anti-febrile medication was stored in an area that was inaccessible to children.
- The registered provider confirmed that none of the children attending required regular medication. Templates were available to plan for the safe administration of medication should the need arise.

Fire Safety:

- All emergency exit doors were observed to be clear from obstruction and staff were aware of the number of children present at all times. This helps ensure the safe effective evacuation of children and staff in the event of an emergency evacuation.

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Outing:

- On the morning of the inspection the children were observed to return from an outing at the park. Through discussion with staff and documentary evidence showed that had staff completed an outing checklist and risk assessment prior to going on this outing. Staff also ensured they had a well-equipped first aid box, a creche phone, children attendance register and drinks in case the children felt thirsty. In addition, staff and children wore high visibility gear. This helped ensure the children's safety.

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) There was evidence to show that two adults hold certification in First Aid Response training, the two adults were available during the duration of the inspection.

(2)

(a) A suitably equipped first aid box was available and stored safely in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on a shelf in the care room.

(b) The first aid box was observed to be easily available to the adults caring for the children attending the service.