

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY162
--------------------------	-------------

Name of Service:	Parkmore Day Nursery
-------------------------	----------------------

Address of Service:	1 St. Assam's Road East, Raheny, Dublin 5
----------------------------	---

Eircode:	D05 V525
-----------------	----------

Name of Registered Provider:	Fiona Ryan
-------------------------------------	------------

Service type:	Full Day
----------------------	----------

Date of Inspection:	15/07/2025
----------------------------	------------

No of pre-school children:	AM	15	PM	15
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	----

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, 7 th Floor Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, St John's Road West, Kilmainham, Dublin 8 D08 X01K
Inspection undertaken by:	L.A Webster
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).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
---------------------------------	----------------

Description of service

Parkmore Day Nursery is a full day care service that is located within a residential area in North Dublin. The service operates from a purpose-built building that is adjacent to the registered providers home and is open from 08:00 to 18:00pm Monday to Friday. The service offers education and care to children aged 1-5 years and participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme. The service is comprised of three care rooms:

Room name	Age group
Toddler Room	1-2 years
Pre-Montessori Room	2-3 years
Montessori Room	3-5 years

Additionally, the service has a kitchen, office, staff room, and sanitary facilities. An enclosed outdoor area is available to the side of the premises.

Staffing

The registered provider employs 10 staff including the person in charge, a deputy person in charge, and 8 childcare staff. On the day of inspection, there were six staff present, including the person in charge and the deputy person in charge. Additionally, the registered provider works within the service in a supernumerary position on a part-time basis and was present during 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 the child, safety, and premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

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 inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, 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.

(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 a named person to deputise as required.
 - (b) A review of the roster evidenced that either the person in charge or the deputy person in charge were rostered to be present during the operational hours of the service.
 - (c) There was a clear management structure in place, and this was further evidenced through discussion with staff

- (2) A review of paperwork and discussion with the person in charge showed that there are currently 10 staff employed by the registered provider to work within the service. The files of 2 new staff members who had commenced employment following the previous inspection on the 30 July 2024 were reviewed. Garda vetting disclosures were reviewed for all staff that are currently employed within the service.
- (a) There were four written references available from past employers one of which was verified.
 - (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all staff members. 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 one adult who had lived in a country other than Ireland for a period of six months or so as an adult.
- (4) Evidence was available to show that one adult who worked directly with the children held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at a minimum of level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications, or a qualification that is deemed of equivalence by the minister

Non-Compliance Information

- (2)
- (a) Three written references were not verified by the service for two adults prior to starting their employment.
 - (d) Police vetting was not available for one adult who had resided outside of the country for a period exceeding six consecutive months.
- (3) The procedures specified in paragraph (2) had not been completed prior to one person being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service following review of the staff records on the day of inspection

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (2)
- (a) Three References were reverified, signed and dated. The service will ensure that all verifications are documented.
 - (d) Police vetting has been applied for.
- (3) Ensure that all reference verifications are recorded at time of verification and ensure that all staff have correct police vetting from all countries resided in for more than 6 months.

Supporting documentation submitted

- (2) (a) Photo evidence submitted.
- (d) Photo evidence submitted

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions provided by the registered provider are sufficient to address the non-compliance under Regulation 9(2)(a) and (3) however, regulation 9 (2)(d) remains outstanding, the registered provider is required to submit the police vetting to the inspectorate when it is received.

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) On the day of inspection, there were 15 children being cared for by five adults in the morning and 15 children being cared for by four adults in the afternoon. Additionally, the person in charge was available to provide support in the care rooms as needed.
- (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 within the rooms.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 21 – Equipment and materials

A registered provider shall ensure that there is adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment and materials available on the premises of the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

The service ensured there was adequate and suitable furniture and equipment available, for example:

- The furniture and equipment in the rooms were observed to be adequate for the number of children in the rooms, it was appropriate for the age range and stage of development of the children in the rooms, and was well maintained, durable and easy to clean.
- The toys and equipment were laid out on low level shelving, visible to the children, and were grouped in themed areas of interest. Labelling and imagery were used effectively to indicate where materials belong.
- Designated interest areas were well resourced with a variety of play materials and equipment available to the children according to their age and stage of development, to include arts and crafts materials, home areas with associated props; range of jigsaws; range of construction toys; sorting and stacking toys; range of toys for transporting such as cars and trains with tracks, small world play toys.
- Images of the children and their families were displayed throughout the rooms, and children had labelled coat hooks for their belongings.

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 upon the inspector's arrival. The service entrance operated through a buzzer system that allowed entry into a main hallway and a second door was securely locked to prevent children from leaving the service unsupervised and restrict any unauthorised access to the service. Additionally, the outdoor area was securely fenced and gated.
- The care rooms were in good condition, with no visible hazards or trailing wires observed.

- Cleaning agents were stored safely and locked away out of reach of children.
- Shelving units were firmly anchored to the wall to ensure stability and safety.
- The kitchen area was inaccessible to children and the door remained closed throughout the inspection.
- In discussion with staff, the service operates a nut free zone and a popcorn free zone. Additionally, staff reiterated their knowledge and understanding of beaded jewellery and ensured that it would be immediately removed if observed within the service.

Infection Control:

- Upon arrival, it was observed that the service was clean and hygienic and up to date cleaning schedules were available and observed within the care rooms and sanitary facilities.
- Thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid hand soap and wall mounted paper towel dispenser was available for appropriate hand washing practices. Both staff and children were observed to show familiarity with routine handwashing after nappy changing, dinner time and after free play
- Foot operated pedal bins were in use for the appropriate disposal of waste in the care rooms and sanitary facilities. These were observed to be in good working order.
- An ambient temperature of 18-22°C was maintained in the care rooms, and the windows were open to allow fresh circulation of air.
- Within the sanitary room, children had individually labelled storage areas for their nappies, creams and wipes to avoid any cross contamination.

Administration of Medication:

- Medication was not given at the time of inspection. Through discussion, staff were familiar with the practices required for the administration of medication to children attending the service.
- Observation showed that medication was stored safely and out of reach of children.
- In discussion with staff, it was evident that they were aware of medical care plans for children and where the emergency medication is stored. In addition to this, staff were aware of the procedures to take in relation to potential anaphylaxis and the administering of emergency treatment if the event occurred.

Safe Sleep:

- Staff were noted to be aware of safe sleep practices and children were observed to be monitored while sleeping every 10 minutes. Staff ensured to document this through electronic format highlighting the children's breathing, position, and colour of each child.
- Cots were positioned at 50cms apart, cots and mattresses were observed to be in good condition.
- An ambient temperature of 18-22°C was maintained for sleeping children over one years of age.

Fire Safety:

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

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 person in charge was trained in First Aid Response (FAR), expiry date of April 2026 and was immediately available to the children attending the service. Additionally, the person in charge ensured that two staff held up to date FAR certification and were immediately available to the children as needed
- (2) (a) The first aid equipment was safely stored, and unobstructed if needed to access quickly.
- (b) A suitably equipped first aid box was available at all times to the adults caring for children attending the service

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 firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.
- (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) The records available demonstrated that fire drills are held monthly within the service and the service conducted a fire drill on the 09 June 2025.
- (b) A record was available detailing the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarm systems in the premises.
- Records demonstrate that the firefighting equipment had been serviced annually, with the last service taking place on the 19 June 2025.
 - Records demonstrate that the smoke alarms have been serviced on a quarterly bases with the last service taking place on the 08 April 2025.
- (4) A visual notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was consistently displayed around the service.

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 that the pre-school service was adequately insured, with an expiry date of 01 March 2026.