

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DY176		
<b>Name of Service:</b>	Rainbow Community Playgroup		
<b>Address of Service:</b>	Presentation Primary School, Georges Hill, Dublin 7, Co. Dublin		
<b>Eircode:</b>	D07 YF43		
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Laura Glancy		
<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time		
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	12/02/2026		
<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	13	PM 11
<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Child and Family Agency, Unit 4&5 Nexus Building Block 6A, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15		
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	E Hosford		
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector		
<b>Authority to Inspect</b>			
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>	Not applicable.		

### Description of service

Rainbow Community Playgroup is a community service which operates from Presentation Primary School, Georges Hill, Dublin 7. The service provides part time and sessional care and education to children aged from 2 to 6 years of age and operates from 9am to 1pm Monday to Friday. From September 2025 the service is operating from one care room on the ground floor within the school. The service has use of an outdoor area to the front of the school, a PE room in the basement and a roof top garden.

### Staffing

The service employs a total of three staff to include the registered provider, designated person in charge and one childcare staff. The registered provider does not work directly with the children in the service.

### 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, safety, premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9,11,19,23,25 and 26.

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 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

*(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

(2)(a)(b)(d)(4) The files of three staff members were previously reviewed on the last inspection and were deemed complaint.

(2)(c) Garda Vetting disclosures were available for the registered provider, person in charge and a staff member.

The service demonstrated adherence to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years for all staff employed.

## Part III – Management and Staff

### Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

*(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

(2) The correct adult/child ratio was always maintained in the service throughout the inspection as there were 2 adults working with 13 children aged between 2 to 5 years of age in the morning and 11 children in the afternoon.

(8)(a) Documentation available demonstrated that two adults were on the premises throughout the operation of the 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

#### Compliance Information

(1)(a)

##### Basic Needs

- Snack times were a sociable and relaxed occasion with staff sitting with the children and engaging in conversation. The children were offered sliced fruits mid-morning and a larger snack from home later in the session. The food they ate consisted of sandwiches, yogurts, cheese and fruits.  
Water was available in the care room and positioned in an easily available position for the children to access independently.
- The transitions between activities such as toilet visits, snack time, free play and outdoor play were observed to be calm and relaxed with staff available to care for the individual needs of the children.

##### Physical and Material Environment

- The care room was laid out in defined interest areas to prompt children to engage in self-directed and imaginative play. Interest areas included home and kitchen corners, construction areas, sand trays, arts and crafts, rest spaces and library corners.
- The play materials and equipment were stored on low-level shelving to facilitate the children to select and replace items of interest independently. Play materials were suitable for the age and stage of development of the children in the individual care rooms.
- There was a suitable range of books available in the care rooms to support children's language development and provide choice at story time.
- All materials and equipment in the care room were appropriate to the age and development of the child.
- The outdoor play area was fully enclosed by high walls and metal gates. A sheltered area was available and covered in an artificial surface which ensured that the children enjoyed the outdoor space in all weathers. The children engaged in outdoor play and for an extended period, they had the opportunity to run, play games and build with large blocks.

## Supporting relationships around children

- Staff were observed to have respectful, warm and responsive interactions with the children using soft tones and positive non-verbal communication strategies such as being at the children's level.
- Staff were observed to be engaged with and sit with the children during play time and having positive interactions during play activities of jigsaws and building. They were responsive to the children and were observed to give them choices regarding their play activities.
- Staff members supported each other in the provision of care to the children.
- Communication with parents is through conversation at drop off and pick up and through text messages.

## 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 premises and outdoor play area were appropriately secured with an electronic intercom that was managed by staff to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised people from gaining access to the service.
- The care room was observed to be suitable and safe with all cleaning agents, sharp implements, and flexes out of reach.
- The water temperature in the sanitary accommodation in the service did not exceed the recommended maximum water temperature of 43°C. This reduced the risk of scalding for the children in attendance.
- Staff maintained a daily record of each child's arrival and departure to the service

#### Infection Control:

- Adequate hand-washing facilities were available in the sanitary facilities used by the children, these included thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap, paper towels and bins.  
Children were supported to wash their hands before snack and after using the toilet.
- A refrigerator was available in the service to refrigerate perishable food items from home.
- The service was maintained in a clean and hygienic condition throughout, with the premises and equipment observed to be visually clean.

## Fire Safety:

- Documentation available demonstrated that fire drills were completed in the service monthly. The emergency exit area in the care room was observed to be unobstructed and clear of any obstacles during the inspection.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 25 - First aid

*(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a person trained in first aid for children is, at all times, immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service.*

*(2) A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children-*

*(a) is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and*

*(b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.*

## Compliance Information

(1)

The registered provider ensured that a staff member held First Aid Responder (FAR) certification training with an expiry date of 5 July 2026.

(2)

(a) and (b) Two first aid boxes were suitably equipped, accessible and available to the 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 fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.
- (2) The record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection by-
- (a) a parent or guardian of a pre-school child attending or proposing to attend the pre-school service,
  - (b) an employee, and
  - (c) an authorised person.
- (3) A registered provider shall ensure that a record referred to in paragraph (2) is retained for a period of 5 years after its creation
- (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 last recorded fire drills that took place in the service was the 26 January 2026.
- (b)
- The number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms was present in the Service. The fire extinguishers were serviced in February 2026 and the smoke alarms on the 8 January 2026.
- (4)
- A notice of the fire procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency were clearly displayed in the service.