

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY195		
Name of Service:	ChildVision Early Years Service		
Address of Service:	Grace Park Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9, Co. Dublin		
Eircode:	D09 WK0H		
Name of Registered Provider:	Audrey Farrelly		
Service type:	Sessional		
Date of Inspection:	26/09/2023		
No of pre-school children:	AM	5	PM 0
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla Child and Family Agency 2nd Floor Nexus Building. Blanchardstown Corporate Park Dublin 15		
Inspection undertaken by:	M Foley		
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

Child vision Early Years' Service was established in 1999. The preschool is on the ground floor of a large multipurpose campus. The preschool consists of three care rooms named room 1, 2 & 3, associated sanitary areas, an office, a large sensory room and a garden area. Equine therapy is available on site to the children attending the service. The service provides sessional pre-school care and education to children from 0 to 6 years of age who have a visual impairment.

Opening times for the preschool service is from 10am to 1pm.

Staffing

On the day of inspection there were seven staff including the registered provider and the deputy person-in-charge working directly with five children.

The service also employs 4 nursing staff who provide nursing care and support. The registered provider stated that 1 nurse is on duty during the opening hours of the preschool 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 and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9 (1) (a), (b) and (c), (2) (a) (b) (c) and (d) and (4), regulation 11 (1), regulation 15 (a) to (i), regulation 22 and regulation 25 (1), (2) (a) and (b). These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations within this report.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation 15 (a) to (i). The scope of the inspection included room 3.

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

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

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

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

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

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

Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) The service has a designated person-in-charge and a named person who can deputise as needed.
 - (b) On review of staff rosters available for inspection, the person in charge or the named person who can deputise were available during the services opening hours.
 - (c) The management structure in the service was on display and on discussion with staff members, they were aware of the structures in place and their roles of responsibility.

(2)

The files for 7 childcare staff who work at the preschool service were reviewed.

(a) Two staff members had 2 written and validated references from a past employer available for inspection.

Five staff members had 1 written and validated reference from a past employer available for inspection.

(b) Five staff members had 1 written and validated reference from a source other than a past employer.

(c) The required garda vetting documentation was available on the 7 files reviewed.

(d) One staff member who required international police vetting had it available for inspection.

(4)

Documentation to show that the 7 staff members had obtained an award in Early childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent was available for inspection.

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.

Compliance Information

(1) There were 5 children being care for by 5 childcare staff and the registered provider and the deputy person in charge were available to provide additional support when needed. Staff rosters and staff sign-in sheets indicated that there are an adequate number of adults working with the children.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 15 – Record of pre-school child

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a pre-school service in a drop-in centre or a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a record in writing is kept in respect of each pre-school child attending the service containing the following particulars:

- (a) the name and date of birth of the child;*
- (b) the date on which the child first attended the service;*
- (c) the date on which the child ceased to attend the service;*
- (d) the name and address of a parent or guardian of the child and a telephone number where that parent or guardian or a relative or friend of the child can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service;*
- (e) authorisation for the collection of the child;*
- (f) details of any illness, disability, allergy or special need of the child, together with all the information relevant to the provision of special care or attention;*
- (g) the name and telephone number of the child's registered medical practitioner;*
- (h) record of immunisations, if any, received by the child;*
- (i) written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency.*

Compliance Information

The record of 6 preschool children who currently attend the service were reviewed.

The details required to address regulation 15 (a) to (i) were completed.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 22 – Food and drink

A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

- The childcare staff are supported by nursing staff to help meet the individual nutritional needs of each child. There is a nurse on duty during the opening times of the service.
- Each child has an individual care plan.
- Parents provide suitable food and drink for their child and there is a fridge in each care room to store perishable food.
- The childcare staff were observed to provide continuous supervision and support the children in a relaxed environment at mealtimes and throughout the day. Games and exercises in fine motor activities were observed and the children were observed to enjoy these activities. These activities will help the children with hand to mouth co-ordination and self-feeding where possible.

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

(2)
(a) and (b) suitably equipped first aid boxes were available and easily accessible. Staff stated that the nurse is always available to provide first aid and is supported by the childcare staff. The nurses' office is beside room 1.

Non-Compliance Information

There were no in date First Aid Responder certificates for the childcare staff. It is acknowledged that 2 childcare staff had an in-date first aid certificates and that 1 staff member had training in Cardiac First Response.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

Two staff will attend the next available FAR course. In the meantime all first aid and medical interventions will be the remit of our Nursing Department which is always the case. Our team of nurses are responsible and always available for all first aid during sessional hours.

Summary Comment

The corrective action taken will address the non-compliance identified. Regulatory compliance remains outstanding until evidence that the First Aid Responder certification course has been completed.