

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DY283
--------------------------	-------------

<b>Name of Service:</b>	Daughters of Charity, Goldenbridge Early Childhood Development Service
-------------------------	--

<b>Address of Service:</b>	Emmett Crescent, off Emmett Crescent, Inchicore, Dublin 8.
----------------------------	--

<b>Eircode:</b>	D08 X985
-----------------	----------

<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Tracey Monson
-------------------------------------	---------------

<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
----------------------	--------------------------------

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	09/02/2026
----------------------------	------------

<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	16	PM	13
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	----

<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Tusla Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla Child and Family Agency, Loughlinstown Health Centre, Loughlinstown, County Dublin.
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	Olivia Quill
<b>Title:</b>	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).

<b>Conditions if applicable</b>	Not applicable
---------------------------------	----------------

### Description of service

Daughters of Charity, Goldenbridge Early Childhood Development Service is a not-for-profit organisation. This service is one of a few services operated by the Daughters of Charity Child and Family Service. The early years service is registered to provide full time, part-time and sessional care and education to pre-school children aged two to six years. The service operates Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm.

### Staffing

In total ten staff are employed to work in the service including a cook. On the day of inspection nine staff were present including the person in charge, deputy person in charge and cook. Six staff worked directly with the children. The person in charge and deputy person in charge were available to provide additional support and to relieve staff for breaks. The registered provider does not work 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 and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation 15 record of a preschool child.

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

*(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 person in charge and a named person to deputise.

(b) The person in charge was present at all times during the inspection.

(c) The service has a clear management structure in place that identified the lines of authority and accountability. Staff demonstrated an awareness of their individual roles and the lines of authority.

(2) The inspection focused on a review of files for new staff employed since the last inspection dated the 25 April 2023. In total 2 new staff members were employed. Their files along with Garda vetting disclosures for all staff employed in the service were reviewed as detailed below.

(a) & (b) Two written validated references had been appropriately considered for each adult.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for 10 staff. 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) International police vetting was required and available for 1 staff.

(3) All the required recruitment procedures were carried out prior to any staff being allowed contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

(4) Documentation was available to show the 2 new staff members employed to work directly with children attending the service held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 and level 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

### 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.*

*(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

(1) An adequate number of adults were working directly with the children at all times during the inspection.

(2) The minimum ratio of adults to children for full day care services was adhered to at all times during the inspection. There were 16 children attending the service being supervised by 6 adults on the day of inspection.

(8)(a) There were at least 2 adults on the premises throughout the inspection.

### 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.*

*(3) A record in writing referred to in paragraph (1) or (2) shall be open to inspection on the premises by-*

- (c) an authorised person.*

### Compliance Information

- (1) A sample of ten records were reviewed for children who were attending the service. The records reviewed contained the following information:
- (a) The name and date of birth of each child.
  - (b) The date on which the child first attended the service.
  - (c) There was an area on the registration form where the date when a child would cease to attend the service will be recorded.
  - (d) The names, addresses and telephone number of parents were recorded and information where parents can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service were also available.
  - (e) There was authorisation for the collection of the child.
  - (f) The records available supported the recording of any illness, disability, allergy or special need of the child.
  - (g) The name and telephone number of each child's medical practitioner was recorded.
  - (i) There was written consent for appropriate medical treatment of a child in the event of an emergency.
- (3) A record in writing referred to in paragraph (1) or (2) was available and open for inspection on the premises.

### Non-Compliance Information

- (h) There was no record of immunisations received on six of the children's forms reviewed.

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

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

(h) The parents have been contacted to provide immunisation records. If their child is not immunised, I will add that information to their file. Parents complete an application to register their child with the service. The application form includes a box for office use indicating if the immunisation record has been received. I liaised with my Senior Manager, and we have agreed to amend the application to include a space asking parents to

provide immunisation records when returning the completed form. We will also include a space for parents to indicate if their child is not immunised.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

Copy of updated form.

### **Summary Comment**

Supporting evidence was submitted in keeping with the actions submitted. The Regulatory requirement has been met.

## 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)(b)

Each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service. The rooms were arranged in an open-plan layout, allowing children to move freely and choose the activities they wished to engage in. Play materials were easily accessible from open shelving. Areas of interest included a home corner, construction toys, an art area, dress-up clothing and a library area beside the cosy corner. Each area was well resourced with suitable props.

Staff were observed to use distraction, gentle tones and praise when promoting positive behaviour. Warm and positive interactions were observed between staff and children. The children appeared familiar with their caregivers and at ease in their company.

The service had a healthy eating policy in place and staff reported that all meals are provided by the service. A hot meal was served at lunchtime consisting of potato wedges, sliced carrots, broccoli, and fish fingers. Children were offered milk and water with their meal. Fresh fruit, including sliced melon and chopped grapes, was offered

afterwards. The atmosphere during mealtime was calm and relaxed. Staff supervised appropriately and sat with the children, engaging them in conversation. Children were given sufficient time to eat and enjoy their food. Two helpers were appointed each day to assist with tasks and responsibilities.

Throughout the morning, children engaged in a variety of activities including tabletop play. Due to inclement weather, the children did not go outdoors; however, they participated in indoor physical activities such as dancing to music. The children were laughing, appeared familiar with the songs, and enjoyed dancing with their peers. Transitions between activities were well managed. A timer bell was used to signal tidy-up time before moving to the next activity.

Family walls were displayed at children's eye level, and children's artwork was also displayed throughout the room. Parents were observed entering the care rooms when collecting their children. Staff explained they communicate daily with parents at drop-off and collection times.

### 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 to the service was adequately secured to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised.
- There were no trailing cables observed.
- The toys and play equipment observed in use by the children on the day of inspection appeared in good working order.

##### Infection Control:

- Liquid soap, warm water and paper towels were available to facilitate hand washing. Staff were observed to carry out hand washing as appropriate. The children washed their hands independently after messy play and before meals while being closely supervised by staff.
- Pedal operated bins were provided and used by staff and children to dispose of waste.
- In room two staff were observed to help clean children's noses and they washed hands appropriately after.

- Staff maintained a daily record of cleaning completed.

### Administration of Medication:

- Staff were familiar with the medication policy when spoken to and medication records reviewed contained details of the medication given, including parental consent, the signatures of the staff member who administered the medication, and the staff member who was present as a witness.

### Fire Safety:

- Emergency exits were kept clear.

### Non-Compliance Information

#### General Safety:

1. Garda vetting was available for one staff member. However, this vetting disclosure was not dated within the previous three years in adherence with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice 'EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'.

### Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### Corrective & Preventive Action

#### General Safety:

1. The Garda Vetting is processed and a copy on file for the staff member dated 19th February 2026. In the future all Garda Vetting renewal will be processed well in advance of the renewal date so there will be no delay.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

#### General Safety:

Copy of Garda vetting disclosure.

### Summary Comment

Supporting evidence was submitted in keeping with the actions submitted. The Regulatory requirement has been met.

### 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 four staff who were present had up-to-date certificates in first aid for children and two staff had up-to-date certificates in First Aid Responder training. These staff were available to children attending the pre-school service.

(2)

(a) A suitably equipped first aid box was available and stored safely in an easily accessible position in the kitchen. Each care room had a smaller first aid kit available in the room.

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

*(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 monthly record of fire drills was available. The last fire drill was completed on 03 February 2026.
- (b) The number type and maintenance record for fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms was available. The fire fighting equipment was serviced on the May 2025 and the smoke alarm was serviced on the 03 February 2026.
- (4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the main hall and each care room.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

## Compliance Information

The registered provider had a valid insurance certificate displayed on the premises confirming that the pre-school service was adequately insured.