

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015FI124
--------------------------	-------------

Name of Service:	Jolly Tots
-------------------------	------------

Address of Service:	2 Blakestown Cottages, Clonsilla, Dublin 15.
----------------------------	--

Eircode:	D15 R70H
-----------------	----------

Name of Registered Provider:	Niamh O'Reilly
-------------------------------------	----------------

Service type:	Sessional
----------------------	-----------

Date of Inspection:	20/04/2026
----------------------------	------------

No of pre-school children:	AM	19	PM	N/A
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	-----

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate Area 1 2 nd Floor, Unit 4/5 The Nexus Building Blanchardstown Corporate Park Ballycoolin Dublin 15 D15 CF9K
Inspection undertaken by:	C. Harte
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).

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Description of service

Jolly Tots is a sessional childcare service located in a residential area of Dublin 15 and is registered to provide early childhood care and education to a maximum of 22 children aged 2 to 6 years old Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm. The premises is a prefabricated building consisting of one care room and a sanitary area. There is a large fully fenced outdoor area at the rear of the premises.

Staffing

The registered provider employs one staff member to work in the service. On the day of the inspection the registered provider was present with one staff member, both work directly with the preschool children.

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.

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

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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, 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*

(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-

- (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*

Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider ensured that;

- (a) The service had a designated person in charge and named person to deputise as required.
- (b) Documentary evidence showed either the person in charge or the deputy person in charge were rostered to be present during the operational hours of the service.

(2) Following a review of the roster and conversation with the registered provider, it was established there were no staff new to the service since the last inspection held on the 16 November 2023 when all staff files were reviewed. The garda vetting disclosures of the registered provider and staff member were reviewed.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

- (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for both adults. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

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.

(3) Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 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) therefore at that reference number is satisfied.

Compliance Information

(1) On the day of inspection there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the service to meet their care needs.

(3) The adult to child ratios were correct when the inspector arrived unannounced to the service and throughout the inspection. Two staff were allocated to work directly with 19 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;*

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

(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) The registered provider ensured that of the 10 records reviewed the following was maintained in each record:

- (a) The name and date of birth for each child was available for the 10 files reviewed.
- (b) The date on which the child first attended the service.
- (c) Each of the 10 files reviewed were of children still currently attending and detailed the expected leave date.
- (d) The relevant contact details for parents and or guardians were available.
- (e) Authorisation to collect a child.
- (f) Relevant details relating to the health and care of a child.
- (g) The contact details of the child's doctor.
- (h) The child's immunisation record.
- (i) Written consent for emergency medical treatment if required.

(3)

(c) All the records requested were available for review by the inspector on the day of the inspection.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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-

(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)(b) The following practices were observed in place to support the children attending:

- The atmosphere within the care room was calm and pleasant. Staff were responsive to children's needs and engaged with them throughout the morning joining them in play and conversation.
- Staff guided children through transitions ensuring they were aware of the daily routine and used a variety of strategies such as a small bell and time checks to keep the children informed. This supported smooth transitions and provided a sense of comfort and predictability to the children.
- During activity times children were given ample time to share their thoughts and opinions. Staff aided problem solving by prompting questions.
- Children moved around the care room freely playing with resources and toys of their own interests. The care room layout provided for a variety of play spaces for children to enjoy.
- Children had appropriate outdoor clothing available and access to a secure and well-resourced garden.
- Each child's file contained an all about me page detailing things they enjoy, things they require help with and other personalised information. Through discussion with the inspector and interactions with the children staff demonstrated their knowledge of individual children's preferences and interests.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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 secured when the inspector arrived unannounced to the service. Entry was monitored and managed by the staff which restricted unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises and prevented children from exiting the service unsupervised.
- Furniture, toys and equipment were observed maintained in good condition and suitable for use.
- A handrail was provided on the step leading to the service entrance.
- Radiators were wall mounted and out of children's reach.
- Children were encouraged to return chairs to the table neatly when finishing an activity to help keep walkways clear and prevent a trip hazard.

Infection Control:

- Windows were open allowing fresh air to circulate.
- Children's snack from home was observed to be appropriately refrigerated.
- Children were supported to wash their hands following toileting. Dispensed soap and warm water were available.

Administration of Medication:

- Medication on the premises was observed in date on the day of inspection.

Fire Safety:

- An accurate attendance record was maintained of both staff and children. This practice supports safe evacuation in the event of an emergency.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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 documentary evidence available to demonstrate that a person trained to First Aid Responder level was available to children attending during the operational hours of the service the week of the inspection.
- (2) The registered provider ensured that
- (a) A suitably equipped first aid box was in a visible and accessible location out of reach of children.
 - (b) The first aid box was readily available in the event it was required.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

There was documentary evidence available that showed the service was adequately insured for the number of children attending. The insurance was in date with a commencement date of 28 March 2026 and an expiry date of 27 March 2027.