

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

**TUSLA Identifier:** TU2015FL170

**Name of Service:** Little Jack's Corner

**Address of Service:** 54 Carne Court, Huntstown, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

**Eircode:** D15 PXF6

**Name of Registered Provider:** Jackie Arnold

**Service type:** Sessional

**Date of Inspection:** 23/09/2025

<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	9	PM	N/A
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**Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:**  
Early Years Inspectorate  
2nd Floor, Unit 4/5  
The Nexus Building  
Blanchardstown Corporate Park  
Ballycoolin  
Dublin 15 | D15 CF9K

**Inspection undertaken by:** L Jameson

**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

Little Jack's Corner is located in a residential area in Dublin 15. The service provides sessional care to a maximum of nine children aged 2 years and 8 months to 6 years old, from 9:00am to 12:00pm Monday to Friday. The service offers the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme. The service operates from one care room with access to sanitary accommodation and an enclosed outdoor area to the rear of the premises.

### Staffing

The registered provider works directly with the children attending the service and an emergency person is available to the service, if required. On the day of the inspection, the registered provider was present when the inspector arrived unannounced 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 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 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)
- (a)(b) The registered provider was present when the inspector arrived unannounced in the service.
- (2) The registered provider operates the service singlehandedly with an additional adult available in the event of an emergency. Garda vetting for both adults was reviewed on the day of inspection.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for the registered provider and the emergency person. 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.*
- (8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-*
- (c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.*

#### Compliance Information

- (1) On the day of inspection, nine children were being cared for by one adult.
- (3) The adult child ratios were correct when the inspector arrived unannounced in the service and throughout the inspection.
- (8) (c) The registered provider has an arrangement in place for a person who is familiar with the service to be available to provide support in the event of an emergency situation.

### 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 on the day of inspection which supported the health, welfare and development of the children attending:
- Positive and meaningful interactions were observed on the day of the inspection, the registered provider played with the children and joined in their games. Minor disagreements and conflicts were resolved in a calm and prompt manner.
  - The children were supported to follow their own interests, explore their environment and given freedom of choice, while being offered support during activities and transitions.
  - Snack time was observed to be sociable and pleasant, the registered provider engaged in conversations with the children, offering support and encouragement throughout. The children had plenty of time to enjoy and finish their meal.
  - The registered provider offered discreet supervision during toileting and assisted with personal care needs such as handwashing and blowing noses.

### 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 registered provider ensured that an adequate supply of suitable materials and equipment were available to the children in the service. The following was observed;

- Low level tables and chairs were available for use by the children which allowed them to engage in tabletop activities and meals comfortably.
- Toys and materials were accessible on low level shelving which allowed children to access them independently.

- Play materials including puzzles and jigsaws, musical instruments, art and mark making resources, a dollhouse with supporting equipment, construction toys and opportunities for sensory play were available to the children.
- The care room had defined areas of interest such as a home corner with adequate props and a cosy corner with a selection of books which support engaging and spontaneous play experiences.

### 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 leading into the service was appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises.
- A visitor book was available at the front door. The inspector was asked to sign in on their arrival to the service.
- Cleaning agents were stored safely out of reach of children.
- Flexes and cords were secured safely out of reach of children.

##### Infection Control:

- The sanitary area was equipped with warm water, liquid soap and hand paper towels. Children were observed to be supported with handwashing at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Foot operated pedal bins were available in the care room and sanitary area to ensure the hygienic disposal of waste.
- The window in the care room was observed to be open to allow circulation of fresh air and reduce any malodour.
- Perishable lunch items brought from home were kept cool to avoid being spoiled.

##### Administration of Medication:

- Medication was observed to be in date, stored in the correct packaging and out of the children's reach. No children were observed having medication administered on the day of inspection.

##### Fire Safety:

- Fire exits were clear and unobstructed on the day of inspection.
- Emergency evacuation routes were displayed throughout the service.

## 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) A person who held in-date First Aid Response (FAR) training was at all times immediately available to the children attending the service. This was evidenced in the FAR training record maintained for the registered provider.

- (2)
- (a) The first aid box available in the service was suitably equipped and stored in a conspicuous location on the premises.
  - (b) First aid boxes were available for the children in attendance in the event of an emergency.