

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015FL243
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Name of Service:	Parkview Pre School
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Address of Service:	St. Brigids Community Centre, Blanchardstown Village, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.
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Eircode:	D15 PY83
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Name of Registered Provider:	Erica Duffy
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Service type:	Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	19/03/2026
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No of pre-school children:	AM	11	PM	N/A
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate 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).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
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Description of service

Parkview Preschool is a sessional preschool service located in Dublin 15 and is registered to provide sessional care to a maximum of twenty-two children aged 2 to 5 years Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 12.00pm. The service operates from a room in a Community Centre. Parkview Preschool is one of six services operated by the registered provider.

Staffing

There are currently three staff employed by the service including the person in charge and two childcare staff who work directly with the children. Present on the day of the inspection was the person in charge, and one childcare professional who works across services operated by the registered provider. 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, safety and premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under:

- Regulation 9 (1)(a)(b), (2)(a)(b)(d), (4) Management and Recruitment
- Regulation 11(1)(3) Staffing Levels
- Regulation 19(1)(b) Health, Welfare and Development of Child
- Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child

however, on inspection additional non-compliance which posed a risk was identified under Regulation 29 Premises. These findings are outlined within the relevant regulation within this report.

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

(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

(1) The registered provider ensured that:

- (a) The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.
- (b) A review of available records demonstrated that 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 previous inspection information, information available on inspection and discussion with the person in charge it was determined that one new staff member had been employed since the previous inspection to work directly with the children. In addition, Garda vetting for two staff members whose disclosures was identified as due for renewal was requested for review.

The registered provider had completed the following checks:

- (a) Two written and validated references were available from past employers.

- (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all three reviewed. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
 - (d) Police vetting was available for one adult who had lived in a country other than Ireland for a period of six months or more as an adult.
- (4) Evidence was available to show that one staff member who worked directly with the children held 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.

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.
- (3) The adult to child ratios were correct when the inspectors arrived unannounced to the service and throughout the inspection. Two staff were allocated to work directly with 11 children who were present.

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:

- Staff actively engaged with children throughout the morning and joined them in conversation. Interactions were calm and kind and the atmosphere within the room was pleasant.
- Lunchtime was observed to be a social occasion as children sat with peers and engaged in discussion. Staff assisted with the opening of lunches as required and ample time was provided for children to enjoy their food.
- Independence was encouraged as children were guided to return lunch boxes to their bags and place them away.
- Transitions from activities on the morning of inspection were calm and relaxed. Children moved through their day demonstrating a familiarity and comfort with the routine.
- Children were invited to take part in activities and were provided with a choice to engage and given opportunity to share their thoughts, comments and questions.

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 service entrance was secure when the inspector arrived unannounced. Entry and exit to the service was managed and monitored by staff to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access.
- Window restrictors were observed in place.
- Toys and resources were observed to be maintained and suitable for use.
- Lights had protective covering in place.
- There were no trailing flexes.

Infection Control:

- Foot pedal operated bins were present in both the care room and sanitary area supporting hand hygiene practices.
- Dispensed liquid soap and warm water were available in the sanitary area.
- A cleaning schedule was available and was completed up to date.

Fire Safety:

- Attendance records were maintained in a timely manner and reflective of children present on the day of inspection. This supported safe evacuation in the event of an emergency.
- The fire evacuation procedure was clearly displayed.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The radiator cover positioned near the dress up area of the care room was broken and damaged. This posed a potential risk of injury to children.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. The radiator cover has been repaired to reduce the risk of injury. Staff have been advised to more observant of their room and to notify management of any maintenance issues.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

Photographic evidence.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 23 has been addressed.

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.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider did not ensure a person trained in first aid responder (FAR) was available to the children at all times during the operating hours of the service. On the day of the inspection there was no staff member present who held a FAR certificate. It is acknowledged there was a person present with paediatric first aid.

(2) (a)(b) A suitably equipped first aid box was not available. A review of the first aid box showed only one burn dressing available. This burn dressing had expired. A suitably equipped first aid box including two burn dressings should be available at all times to support the care and safety of children attending the service.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1) Management have rostered a FAR certified staff member for each day. Going forward if our FAR staff member is unavailable to attend work we will ensure she is replaced by another FAR certified staff member. We are also going to send more staff for FAR training.

(2) The out-of-date burn dressings were removed from the first aid box and replaced with new ones.

Management carried out a full audit on all our first aid boxes to ensure we have adequate supplies and that everything in them is in date.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 25 have been addressed.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-

(b) safe and secure,

Non-Compliance Information

(b) The registered provider did not ensure that the children attending the service had access to a safe and secure outdoor play area.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(b) The children will be brought to the secure, walled and gated communal green area outside the community centre. Management will ensure the children have access to a safe outside space.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photos of secure outdoor area provided.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 29 have been addressed. The outdoor area to be used by the service will be reviewed for suitability on next inspection.