

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015GY218
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Name of Service:	Roscám Childcare Centre
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Address of Service:	41 Boireann Bheag, Roscam, Co. Galway
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Eircode:	H91 AVN2
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Name of Registered Provider:	Cathy Quinn
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	13/09/2023
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No of pre-school children:	AM	96	PM	76
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Quality and Regulation Directorate, Child and Family Agency, Clinical & Administration Building, Block A (1st Floor- Green Corridor) Merlin Park, Galway
Inspection undertaken by:	F Kelly, S Meehan.
Title:	Early Years Inspectors

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

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Description of service

This privately operated service opened in 2005 and offers a full day care provision from 7:00am to 18:00 pm each day Monday to Friday. The service is registered to cater for preschool children ranging in ages from 1 year 6 to years of age. The service is also registered to cater for school aged children.

Staffing

There were a total of 23 staff employed in the service which included the manager, deputy manager, office manager and kitchen staff.

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. 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 inspectors wish 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)(a) The service manager was the designated person in charge and there was a named person who was able to deputise as required.
- (b) During the period of inspection, the manager was on the premises and facilitated the inspection.
- It was confirmed that there were 23 members of staff employed in the Early Years' service. On the day of inspection there were 4 students on placement in the service.
- (2)(a) There were 39 written and appropriately validated references available from the adult's most recent employer.
- (b) There were 11 written and appropriately validated references available from a source other than recent

employer for the staff working in the service, which included 2 students.

- (c) Garda Vetting disclosures were available for all staff working in the service.
- (d) Police Vetting disclosure was available for 16 adults working in the service that had lived outside the jurisdiction for a period of over 6 months.
- (4) There were 22 adults working directly with children who had obtained at least an award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework.

Non-Compliance Information

- (2)(b) There were 2 students on placement in the service that did not have 2 validated references on file.
- (4) There was one adult working directly with children that could not provide evidence that they had obtained an award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider stated the following in their reply.

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (2)(b) All required references are on file for all students on placement. Students will be required to have all paperwork submitted before work experience starts, the manager and deputy manager will sign off to ensure that they are in place.
- (4) The staff member currently is enrolled in a Child Care course to achieve the required qualifications.

Supporting documentation submitted

On the 10/10/2023, the outstanding references were submitted to the early year's inspectorate.

Evidence was submitted in the form of an email to indicate that the staff in question, enrolled in a childcare course on the 11/09/2023.

Summary Comment

The non-compliances identified under this regulation on inspection have not been adequately address as (4) remains outstanding.

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) During the period of inspection there were adequate numbers of adults working with the pre-school children attending the service.

(2) At 10:30 am on the day of inspection, the following playrooms were in operation:-

- Toddlers Room, there were 3 adults and 1 student working with 12 children.
- Wobbler room 1 , there were 2 adults working with 5 children.
- Wobbler room 2, there were 2 adults working with 8 children.
- Cub's room, there were 4 adults and 1 student working with 17 children.
- Bear's room, there were 2 adults working and 1 student working with 19 children.
- Montessori room, there were 2 adults and 1 student working with 19 children.
- Kangaroo room, there were 2 adults working with 16 children.

At 4:30 pm on the day of inspection the following playrooms were in operation:

- Toddlers Room, there were 3 adults working with 12 children.
- Wobbler room 1 , there were 2 adults working with 5 children.
- Wobbler room 2, there were 2 adults working with 8 children.
- Cub's room, there were 4 adults working with 17 children.

- Bear's room, there were 2 adults working with 17 children.
- Montessori room, there were 2 adults working with 17 children.

(8)(a) Documentary evidence in the form of a staff roster indicated that at least 2 staff were on the premises at all times when the pre-school was operating.

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

Compliance Information

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

INFECTION CONTROL:

- Hand washing by adults and children was observed before and after nappy changing.
- The nappy changing mats in the children's sanitary area between the Toddler Room and the Bear's Room appeared clean and sanitised.
- The service did have a suitable steriliser for practice of sterilising of young children's soothers or bottles. It was observed on the counter in the kitchenette between the Wobbler 1 and Wobbler 2 room.
- The 2 airtight sealable and leakproof foot pedalled nappy bins were used for the disposal of nappies in the children's sanitary areas.
- The sanitary area doors for the children's sanitary areas were kept closed at all times during the inspection.

- Staff in the Wobbler 1 and Wobbler 2 rooms (where children were aged between 1 and 2 years of age) used a portable hand sink to wash the children's hands. They were washed under warm running water with liquid soap thus reducing the risk of cross infection .
- The sleep mats for the Bear's playroom were no longer stored in the playroom but in a stored room off the main corridor.
- There were 2 blue sofas that were maintained in a clean and hygienic manner located in the Bear's room and the Montessori room that was used for the children to relax and read their books.
- Soft seating/matting in the Wobbler 2 playroom was in the suitable and well maintained.

SAFE SLEEP:

- Freshly laundered sheets and used sheets were stored separately and each child had a labelled plastic bag together on shelving units in the Bears room, Wobbler rooms 1 and 2, thus reducing the risk of cross infection.
- Each child in the Bear's room requiring sleep was provided with an individual mat, they were positioned in a way that children could walk between the mats, thus prevent a risk of infection.

Non-Compliance Information

Infection control

The nappy changing procedure observed on the day was not in line with the best practice guidelines. A disposal apron was worn by staff outside the nappy changing area, when the staff returned the child to the playroom after changing the child's nappy, they did not remove their apron when they returned back to the playroom, this posed a risk of cross infection. While it is acknowledged the service nappy changing policy referenced when to change gloves following nappy changing no reference was made to when staff should change their apron following nappy changing.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider stated the following in their reply:

Corrective & Preventive Action

The nappy changing policy was amended to outline when aprons and gloves should be worn and changes during nappy changing procedures. Staff were made aware of the amended policy.

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Supporting documentation submitted

On the 10/10/2023, the revised nappy changing policy was submitted to the early years inspectorate.

Summary Comment

The non-compliances identified under this regulation on inspection have been adequately addressed.