

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015KE189
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Little Angels Childcare Limited
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Clocha Rinca National School, Clogherinkoe, Moyvalley, Co. Kildare
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<b>Eircode:</b>	W91 NN84
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Aisling Cully, Carolyn Hogan
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<b>Service type:</b>	Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	25/11/2024
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	20	PM	N/A
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Child and Family Agency, Suite 7, Vista Primary Care Centre, Ballymore Eustace Road, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 X38W
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	T. Duignan
<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>	N/A
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### Description of service

	<b>Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016</b>  QMS Ref: EYI-RRT12.1 V2.0 03/03/2023 Service ID: TU2015KE189	1 of 8
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Little Angels Childcare Ltd. was established in 2014 and provides sessional care and education to preschool children aged between two and six years. The service is currently open from Monday to Friday from 9:00am – 12:00hours.

The preschool service is located in a large classroom within Clocha Rinca National School, Moyvalley. The service is located at the rear of the National School and has its own secure intercom system for entry and exit. Parking is available at the front of the school. The service has an outdoor space within the school grounds and also the use of the large indoor hall at a designated time during the week within the school.

### Staffing

There were three adults present on the day of inspection. They were all working directly with the children.

The registered providers were not present initially but one of the registered providers arrived after the inspection had commenced and remained until the inspection was completed.

### 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 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 providers, 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

*(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

The files of five staff members were reviewed.

(2)

(a)(b) Two written and verified past employer references or references from a reputable source other than a past employer, were available in respect of five adults employed.

(c) Garda Vetting disclosures were available for all adults working in the service. 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 resided outside the state for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months whose records were reviewed.

(4) Five adults employed and working directly with children attending the service held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or higher on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed equivalent by the Minister.

### 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) There were twenty children attending the service being supervised directly by four adults during the inspection.
- (3) The minimum ratio of adults to children was adhered to on the day of 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.*

## Compliance Information

(1)

(a) – (i) A sample of ten records were assessed and all were found to be compliant.

## 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 children were cared for by the same adults which enabled them to form secure relationships, attachments and develop their confidence and independence within the service.

Children were observed to be engaged, happy, content and relaxed within the care room and the outdoor area.

The staff members ensured the children were supported in all aspects of their physical, emotional and social wellbeing and demonstrated warmth, kindness and respect in their interactions with the children. Children were spoken to using their first name, appropriate eye contact and gentle vocal tones was used during all interactions.

The service had a healthy eating policy and provided the snacks for the children daily which were varied, nutritionally balanced and plentiful. In the preschool room snack time was flexible and child led to encourage each child's independence. It was dependent on when the children were ready to eat. The children understood the system in place to support snack time.

A suitable rest area with soft furnishings was available should a child wish to rest or take a break from activities.

The children were encouraged to take part in activities and afforded opportunities to make choices. All children were provided with outdoor play daily.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance

- (1) *A registered provider shall ensure that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service by an employee or an unpaid worker.*
- (2) *Where there are more than 15 children attending a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that one employee or unpaid worker is assigned responsibility for the checking in and out of children.*
- (3) *A registered provider shall ensure that-*
- (a) no person other than-*
    - (i) pre-school child attending the service,*
    - (ii) a person dropping or collecting such a child,*
    - (iii) an employee, or*
    - (iv) an unpaid worker, can enter the premises without his or her entry being approved by an employee, and*
  - (b) a daily record in writing is kept of the entry on the premises of any such person.*
- (4) *A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing referred to in paragraph (3)(b) is retained for a period of one year from the date to which it relates.*

#### Compliance Information

- (1) The registered providers ensured that each child was checked in and out of the service. This was confirmed by the written attendance records maintained.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) (a),(b) The registered providers ensured that any person entering the service was approved and a record in writing was maintained.
- (4) The records are retained for the required period.

## 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) Persons were trained in in First Aid Response (FAR) for children and were immediately available to the children attending the service.
- (2)
- (a) The first aid equipment was safely stored, in a conspicuous position in each care room.
  - (b) Suitably equipped first aid boxes for children was available to the children attending the service.