

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015KK070
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Slieverue Community Play Group Ltd.
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	GAA Hurling and Football Club, Airmount Road, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny
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<b>Eircode:</b>	X91W421
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Colleen Moroney
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<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	11/09/2025
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	14	PM	6
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Tusla Child and Family Agency, Early Years Inspectorate. Ely hospital, Ferrybank, Wexford.
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	E Mc Garry
<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>	Not applicable
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### Description of service

This preschool service is located on the grounds of the Slieverue hurling and football club. This community service is managed by a voluntary committee. It provides an Early Years Care and Education Service (ECCE) and to children from 09:00 to 12:00 daily, and a part time service up to 13:00. The service is registered to provide a school age service also. The service is open from Monday to Friday between 09:00 and 13:00 hours.

### Staffing

There are four staff employed in the service. The registered provider does not work directly with the children. All staff held the minimum of level 5 and above in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

### 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/ premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under the following regulations:

Regulation 9 management and recruitment

Regulation 10 policies and procedures

Regulation 11 staffing levels

Regulation 15 Record of pre-school child

Regulation 21 Information for parents

Regulation 23 safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

Regulation 25 first aid

Regulation 26 Fire Safety

Regulation 28 Insurance

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)(a)(b)

The manager was the designated person in charge on the day of inspection and remained in the service for the duration of the inspection. There was a person available to deputise and the staff rota indicated these staff were rostered to work when the service was in operation.

Following a review of documentation and a discussion with the manager it was confirmed there were four staff employed in the service. All staff files were reviewed on the day of inspection.

(2)(a)(b)

All required written and validated references were available on file in the service.

- (c)  
There was a Garda vetting certificate available on file for all staff working in the service. The service has demonstrated partial compliance with the requirement to have all staff Garda vetting renewed every 3 years for 4 of the 5 adults in the service. See regulation 23.
- (d)  
There was police vetting available on file for one staff member who had lived in a state other than Ireland as an adult for longer than a period of six consecutive months.
- (4)  
All staff working directly with the children held a qualification at level 5 and above on the National Qualifications Framework.

## Part III – Management and Staff

### Regulation 10 - Policies, procedures etc. of pre-school service

*A registered provider of a pre-school service shall ensure that the written policies, procedures and statements specified in Schedule 5 are in place for the service.*

#### Compliance Information

There were written policies, procedures and statements, as specified in Schedule 5 available for the service. The policies reviewed for this inspection were the policy on managing accidents and incidents and the policy on healthy eating in the service. These policies and procedures were complete and specific to the service.

## 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.*

### Compliance Information

(1)  
There was an adequate number of staff working directly with the children attending the service throughout the duration of the inspection.

(2)  
At 11:00, there were 14 children 2 to 6 years of age in the care of 4 staff.  
At 12:30, there were 6 children 2 to 6 years of age in the care of 2 staff.

### 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

There was a registration form available in respect of each child enrolled in the service. A sample of 10 forms completed by the parents were reviewed as part of the inspection process and were found to contain all the information required under parts (a) – (i) of this regulation.

## Part IV – Information and Records

### Regulation 17 – Information for parents

*A registered provider shall ensure that a parent or guardian of a child proposing to attend the service is provided with the information referred to in subparagraphs (a) to (g) of Regulation 16(1).*

#### Compliance Information

The parents of children attending were sent the policies and procedures prior to their children attending the service. The inspector reviewed the information given to them. The service provided parents with information as required under regulation 17. The information provided for parents contained an outline of the child protection policy, the hours of operation, curriculum development policy, contact details and the facilities available within the service. There was also information included on funding schemes available for parents to avail of. The parents were required to sign a document to confirm they had read the information provided to them.

## 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 preschool room was equipped with suitable play materials for the enjoyment and education of the children attending the service. There was a supply of art equipment in the room. Original artwork was drying on a line suspended across the classroom. There was an original collage entitled 'we are all beautiful' made of cotton wool which the children had completed with the help of the staff. There was a large cosy area which had a supply of books for the children to read. There were jigsaws and toys stored on the shelves which were easily accessible throughout the room. There was a supply of plastic bricks and small dinosaurs for children to play with. The newly constructed outdoor area to the side of the service was suitably resourced with equipment and materials for the enjoyment of the children. There was a climbing frame, a fire engine, tables, chairs and soft wooden like blocks for the children to build with.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

#### Regulation 22 – Food and drink

*A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.*

#### Compliance Information

The service had a healthy eating policy which was shared with parents before their children started attending the service. On arrival the children were observed having their morning snack. Children were observed enjoying a variety of food which was provided by their parents. There were sandwiches, fruit, diced vegetables and yogurts for the children to enjoy. Water was provided for the children to drink with their snack.

#### Non-Compliance Information

1.  
The children who were attending on a part time basis were given a drink of water and a biscuit provided by the service as their second snack at 12:45. The snack provided for the children was not sufficient to meet their nutritional needs. Children who are attending a preschool service on a part time basis are required to be provided with a snack representing two food groups. The policy included the requirements for children who were attending on a part time basis to be provided with two snacks when they were attending the service.
2.  
The drinks for the children were kept in the fridge. The fridge was situated in the kitchenette which was secured with a safety gate which prevented children having free access to their drinks. Children attending a preschool, service are required to have access to their drinks at all times to ensure they are adequately hydrated.

#### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

##### Corrective and Preventive Action

1.  
A text message was sent to all parents following the inspection requesting parents to include an extra snack for their children who are attending the service on a parttime basis. The healthy eating policy in place in the service has been updated to include the addition of a snack for the children attending on a part time basis.
2.  
A drink station has been put in place in the service where children can now always access their drinks.

##### Supporting documentation submitted

1.  
A screen shot of the message sent to all parents detailing the requirement to provide a second snack for their children who are attending the service on a part time basis was received by the inspector. A copy of the healthy eating policy in place in the service was received by the inspector.

2.

A photograph of the drink station now in place in the service was received by the inspector.

### Summary Comment

The response and evidence submitted is satisfactory to meet the requirements of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

## 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 external door was secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised people gaining access to the service. The front door was secured by a lock. Access was gained to the service by ringing the bell. All cleaning agents were stored on shelves which were inaccessible to children.

#### Infection control:

The service had an infection control policy. Children were observed washing their hands after using the toilet and after messy play. The service was clean with no obvious maintenance required.

#### Administration of medication

The service had an administration of medication policy. The policy was reviewed by the inspector and was found to be in line with best practice for the safe administration of medication in a preschool setting.

#### Accident and incidents

The service had a policy on the management of accidents and incidents in the service.

#### Outings

The service does not accommodate outings.

### Non-Compliance Information

1.

The inspector reviewed seven accident and incident forms which had been completed in the service. The records did not contain adequate information in the following examples:

There were five which were not signed by parents:

There were two that were not dated as to when the incident happened:

There were two that were not signed by the childcare worker who had witnessed the incident.

This practice was not in line with the service policy which states all accident and incidents in the service are dated as to when the incident occurred and signed by the childcare worker who witnessed the incident. The parent's signature was also required to confirm they have been informed of the incident or accident involving their child in the service.

2.

The service did not demonstrate compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to re-new Garda vetting every 3 years. There were Garda vetting disclosures on file for all staff members, however the vetting disclosure for one adult member was not dated within the previous 3 years in adherence to with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting.

## Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

### Corrective and Preventive Action

1.

Staff have been reminded of the importance of adhering to policy on the management of accident and incidents in the service. The accident and incident record book has been placed in an accessible place for staff to ensure it is completed as stated in the services policy, including the date of the incident, signature of the parent and signature of the staff member who witnessed the incident.

2.

The vetting disclosure for one adult member which was not dated within the previous 3 years in adherence to with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting remains in process with Tusla. The staff is currently not working directly with the children. The renewed vetting for the staff member will be sent to the inspector as soon as it is received by the service.

### Supporting documentation submitted

1.

A copy of the policy detailing the management of accident and incidents in the service was received by the inspector.

2.

No evidence received.

## Summary Comment

Once completed the response and evidence submitted will be satisfactory to meet the requirements of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

## 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 a person trained in a first aid responder course available to the children on the day of inspection and an adequate number of staff trained to cover the rota in the service.

(2)(a)(b)  
There was a suitably equipped first aid box stored in an easily accessible position on the premises and was available to the children attending the preschool service.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 26 - Fire safety measures

*(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of-*  
*(a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and*  
*(b) the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.*

*(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.*

## Compliance Information

1(a) There was a record of fire drills that had taken place in the service. The last recorded fire drill took place in the service in June 2025 when the service was last open.

(b)  
There was a record of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment available in the service. This maintenance was carried out in October 2024. The annual service of the smoke alarm was carried out in service in March 2025.

(4)  
There was a notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire displayed in a conspicuous position at the main entrance of the service.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

## Compliance Information

There was insurance in place to cover the number of children the service was registered to accommodate.