

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015KY026
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Moyvane Village Pre-School and Afterschool
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Listowel Road, Moyvane, Listowel, Co. Kerry
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<b>Eircode:</b>	V31 DW71
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Anna Marie Flaherty
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<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date(s) of Inspection:</b>	02/12/2025
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	35	PM	09
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Áras an Phobail, Deans Lane, Tralee, Co. Kerry
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<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	N. Reidy
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<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector
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### 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

Moyvane Village Pre-school and Afterschool is a private early years service registered to provide part-time and sessional care to children between the age of 2 years and 6 years. The service operates between the hours of 9:00am to 2:00 pm Monday to Friday. The ECCE scheme session operates between the hours of 9:00 am to 12 mid-day.

There are 2 care rooms in operation from 2 single-story buildings. The care rooms are named as the Buttercup room in building 1 with sanitary accommodation and the office/staff room and the Bluebell room in building 2 with sanitary accommodation.

The children attending the service have access to a designated enclosed and secured outdoor play area directly accessible from both care rooms.

### Staffing

There were 6 adults attached to the service including the registered provider, employed to work directly with the children. There were 2 adults employed under the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) Support Scheme.

### 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 announced and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety. The inspections 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.

### Additional Information

Since the last inspection was carried out, the building where the Bluebell room is located has been re-roofed and an area with an overhead canopy installed outside the entrance door.

### Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, 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.*

*(3) The procedures specified in paragraph (2) shall be carried out prior to any person being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.*

### Compliance Information

(1)

(a) The registered provider is the designated person in charge and there are 2 named staff to deputise in her absence as required.

(b) When the announced inspection commenced, the registered provider was on duty to assist with the inspection process.

(2) Following a review of previous inspection information, information available on inspection and discussion with the registered provider, it was determined that 2 new staff members had been employed since the previous inspection. A total of 2 files were reviewed.

In addition, Garda vetting for 2 staff members whose disclosures were identified as due for renewal were requested for review.

(a) Of the four references required, there were 4 references from previous employers with records of validation on file.

(b) Not applicable, the references provided were from previous employers.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for the 2 new staff members. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years in regard to the two staff who required it

(d) There was Police vetting on file for 1 new staff member who resided outside the jurisdiction of Ireland for greater than six consecutive months.

(4) All staff working directly with the children had achieved major awards in Early Childhood Care and Education, as listed on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

### 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) There was an adequate number of staff working with the children at all times on the day of the inspection.

(2) There were 3 staff working with 19 children in the Buttercup room. The children were aged between 3 and 5 years, 9 children attending on a part-time basis and 10 children attending on a sessional basis.

In the Bluebell room there were 3 staff working with 16 children aged between 3 and 5 years, 4 children attending on a part-time basis and 12 children attending on a sessional basis.

The minimum number of adults was maintained on the day of the inspection.

(8) (a) The registered provider did ensure that a minimum of 2 adults are on the premises during the hours of operation.

### 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

(1)(a)

#### Basic Needs: -

- The children were observed to have adequate free floor space to explore their surroundings and had free unlimited access to the toys in the care rooms.
- The inspector observed the children were appropriately dressed for playing in the outdoor area with their coats, hats and wellingtons.
- The toilets were easily accessible to the children within the care rooms.
- The staff were nearby to assist and supervise the children as was needed.
- Nappy changing facilities were provided for children that required them as observed on inspection.
- The parents of the children attending provide the food for the first snack. The service provides the food for the second snack served for the children who remain in the service on a part-time basis.
- At the snack times observed during the inspection, each of the children had enough time to eat and enjoy their food without being rushed in any way with the adults sitting with the children at the tables.
- The food provided by the parents observed on inspection included for example sandwiches, buttered brown bread, yogurts, a selection of fruit and vegetables.
- The food provided by the service for the second snack included a selection of fruit and vegetables, buttered crackers and toast with milk and water to drink.
- The children remaining in the service until 2pm were cared for in the Buttercup room.
- The inspector observed the children helped themselves to their drinks bottles that were accessible to them in the care rooms during the session.
- There was potable drinking water at the sinks in the care rooms and the staff were observed reminding children to take drinks during the session outside of the snack times.
- The staff were observed to be kind and caring and attentive to the children's individual needs.
- They comforted children who became upset, coming down to their level, sitting the children on their laps providing re-assurance and comfort.
- The children were encouraged and supported to manage their own personal care appropriate to their individual level of independence. This was evidenced for example when children were washing their hands prior to the snack time and after playing in the outdoor area.
- The children had opportunities to move about freely and explore their environment both indoors and outdoors.

- The staff encouraged the children to interact and to engage with a wide range of materials, activities and equipment in the indoor and in the outdoor environment based on the children's own choices, interests and their age and stage of development.
- The materials and equipment in the playroom and in the outdoor area were arranged so they were readily visible and accessible to promote independent free access by the children at all times.
- The staff facilitated opportunities for individual, small and large group activities and play as evidenced with tabletop activities, doing puzzles, colouring, playing with the sand and riding the bikes outdoors.
- The staff comforted and nurtured children who required additional support during the session. They facilitated children who required a change of environment as evidenced when accompanying children to go to play in the outdoor area in between the allocated outdoor play time.
- The staff were observed to issue gentle reminders to the children to use toilet during the session.

### Supporting Relationships

- There was a photograph of each child over their coat/bag hooks in both care rooms, to facilitate children to easily identify their coat and bag independently as was observed on inspection.
- The service maintained individual learning journals, the journals are collaborative tools for working between the parents and the staff for the children attending.
- The learning journals had photographs of the children participating in various play activities with a description of each activity. They were stored at the children's easy reach in both care rooms.
- The learning journals demonstrated the children's learning journey from the start of the year, their emerging interests and their development over time.

### Physical and material environment:

- The care rooms were bright, comfortable and aired by means of the openable windows.
- The outdoor play area provided was spacious, it was adequately enclosed and secured with walls, fencing and gates.
- The surface underfoot was a mix of concrete kerbing, concrete slabs and an artificial grassed area on a raised play area.
- On inspection the children from the 2 care rooms used the outdoor area at alternate times. There was a variety of toys to play with in for example sand table placed under the canopy area, small vehicles, ride on toys, chalk boards with chalks and a playhouse.
- Rest areas were consisting of low-level seating, cushions and large rugs on the floor were provided in both care rooms.

- The registered provider provided stackable beds in the rest area in the Buttercup room. The beds were dressed with sheets and blankets. Some children were observed to sit, lie down, relax on the beds, play with each other and play with their dolls.

### 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 to the service is via a high-level secure gate. The gate was secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorized access.
- The internal doors were appropriately secured to prevent children accessing unsafe areas. The registered provider has included the office door on the risk assessment for the service.
- The cleaning agents seen on inspection were stored in secure cupboards and on high level shelving.
- A supply of thermostatically controlled warm water was provided at all the wash hand basins not exceeding the required 43 degrees Celsius.
- The first aid boxes in each care room were stored on a high shelf out of the reach of the children.

##### Infection Control:

- There was a supply of liquid hand soap, disposable paper hand towels and pedal lidded bins at each of the sinks in the service.
- The nappy changing unit and the nappy changing mat were observed to be clean and dry.
- The windows in the sanitary accommodation serving the Buttercup room were open to provide natural ventilation and the mechanical ventilation in the sanitary accommodation serving the Bluebell room was in working order.
- The tables were cleaned down before and after the mealtimes observed.
- The children were observed washing their hands during the session, for example before the mealtimes and after playing in the outdoor area.
- The perishable food items were stored in the fridges in each of the care rooms.
- The rugs on the floors in both care rooms were observed to be clean.
- Large matting was in place inside each of the entrance doors to the care rooms to facilitate children cleaning their shoes and wellingtons when entering the rooms.

##### Fire Safety:

- Records provided indicated that monthly fire drills were conducted in 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.*

#### Compliance Information

(1) The in-date certifications for First Aid Responder (FAR) training were furnished to the inspectors to evidence that 4 staff members had completed the (FAR) training.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

#### Compliance Information

A copy of the insurance certification for the service was displayed on the notice board.

The information provided on the insurance certificate included:

- the contact details for the insurance provider
- the name and address of the service insured
- the category of insurance cover for the service.
- the number of children covered by the insurance was for 44 children.
- The expiry date of the current insurance cover was 27/03/'26.