

Tusla Regulatory Inspection Report

TUSLA Identifier: TU2015KY027

Name of Service: Cahereen Heights Childcare

Address of Service: 26 The Meadows, Cahereen Heights, Castleisland, Kerry

Eircode: V92 KF72

Name of Registered Provider: Marguerite O'Sullivan

Service type: Full Day

Date(s) of Inspection: 15/08/2022

No of pre-school children: AM 43 PM 42

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Tusla, Child and Family Agency, Early Years Inspectorate, 134 Bank Place, Mallow, Co Cork.

Inspection undertaken by: F Collins

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

Description of service

Cahereen Heights Childcare is a full day care service offering full day care, part time and sessional early years services and the service is also registered to provide school aged childcare.

The service is located on the outskirts of Castleisland in The Cahereen Heights housing estate and is accessed from the Killarney Rd.

The service operates from a purpose-built building that consists of six care rooms in total. Four of the five downstairs rooms accommodate the early years services with the other downstairs room along with the upstairs room accommodating the school age childcare service. There are facilities of children's toilets and nappy changing units in each of the rooms, there is adult sanitary facilities both upstairs and downstairs. The services kitchen is located upstairs and downstairs there is a laundry, an office and a small, secured side office are available downstairs. There is a secured outdoor play space that is surrounded by the service to one side and high concrete walls and a high gate to the other.

The service is privately run and operates daily from 07.30 to 18.30, five days per week.

The early years service is registered to accommodate children from the ages of zero to six years.

Staffing

Twenty five staff in total work in the service. These include the person in charge and deputy person in charge the staff on maternity leave and annual leave, the caretaker and the cook.

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/ facilities. 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.

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

(c) there is a clear management structure in the service that identifies the lines of authority and accountability in the service and the specific roles and responsibilities of each employee and unpaid worker.

(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 had a named designated person in charge and a named person that could deputise as required.

(b) The person in charge or the deputy were on the premises when the inspector arrived and remained on site during the inspection.

(2)

Six staff had commenced in the service since the last inspection and their staff files were assessed. The remaining staff had been employed in the service on the last inspection and the requirement for vetting and qualifications had been assessed and were available for these staff and their files were not reassessed.

(a) Of the 12 validated references required, 11 were available from past employers.

- (b) The remaining validated reference required was available from a source other than a past employer. The references were held on the staff files.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures were available in respect of each of the 6 staff whose files were assessed.
- (d) Police vetting was not required for any of the new staff whose files were assessed.
- (4) One of the six staff whose files were assessed and who worked directly with the children held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education as listed on the National Qualifications Framework. A copy of that qualification was on file.
- Three of the staff employed in the service since the last inspection did not require an Early Childhood Care and Education qualification as they worked with the school aged children only.

Non-Compliance Information

(4) Two of the staff employed since the last inspection did not hold the appropriate qualification in Early Childhood Care and Education. Not having the appropriate number of qualified staff available to the children may impact on the quality of care delivered to the children.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(4) A letter of verification for a qualification has been received from the college and the service is waiting a verification of same from the DCEDIY. The staff work with the school aged children while awaiting qualification verification.

Supporting documentation submitted

(4) A letter of verification of the qualification from the college has been received.

Summary Comment

The requirements for this Regulation have been met.

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

The following policies were assessed and were deemed to be up to date:

- The administration of medication policy
- The infection control policy inclusive of the nappy changing and hand washing procedures
- The safe sleep policy
- The accidents and incidents policy
- The healthy eating policy

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

(2) The registered provider ensured that at all times the minimum adult: child ratio was maintained in each of the four pre-school rooms in operation.

Creche 1: This room had five children in attendance, four under the age of 12 months with one child was one year old, these children were cared for by two adults. All five children in attendance were being cared for on a full day care basis.

Creche 2: This room had ten children in attendance, nine of the ten children were between one and two years of age with one child aged two years. There were two adults caring for these children. All ten children were registered to attend on a full day care basis.

The Cubby: There were 13 children being cared for by three adults, eight of these children were aged between two and three years and five of these children were aged three years. Twelve of the 13 children were attending on a full day care basis with one child attending for sessional hours only.

Senior pre-school: There were 15 children in attendance aged between three and five years and all children were attending on a full day care basis these children were being cared for by two adults.

(8) (a) The roster for the service and the confirmation of the hours of attendance by each staff member indicated that two staff were on the premises at all times when children were in attendance.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider did not ensure adequate staff were at all times available to the children in the service. At 10.42 following a period of approximately 15 minutes during which four of the children in Creche 1 were upset and crying and where attempts by the two staff in the room was made to comfort the children, the staff were unable to soothe the children to sleep or have sufficient capacity to sooth all 4 crying children. The person in charge was requested by the inspector to assist the staff in the room, this allowed for a staff member to soothe and comfort the children to sleep and remain with them in the sleep room.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1) The staff have been reminded in person and in writing by the manager that they can contact the office should additional staff be required. Management will assess with the room leader daily and more often if required the need for additional staff and support.

An agenda for the next staff meeting has been received and this issue is to be discussed.

Supporting documentation submitted

(1) The memo and the agenda for the staff meeting has been received.

Summary Comment

The requirements for this Regulation have been met and will be assessed on the next inspection.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of the following information in relation to the service:

(h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;

(i) details of staff rosters on a daily basis;

(j) details of any medication administered to a pre-school child attending the service with signed parental consent;

(k) details of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.

Compliance Information

- (1) (h) The service insured children were signed in with full name, time of arrival and time of departure this was done on the online application specifically for pre-school services that was operating in each childcare room.
- (i) The staff roster was available for the week of the inspection. The roster included time of arrival and time of departure of each staff member, the cover for breaks and who would provide such cover and also indicated what staff were on leave.
- (j) The records for the administration of medication where reviewed one of the two forms assessed in the Cubby room was correct with all details of medication, the route, the type, the child's name and the relevant details recorded. Following administration of the medication two staff signatures and the parent's signature were on the form.
- (k) The details of any accident or incident that involved a pre-school child were recorded and the records reviewed were correct and had the appropriate details and signatures.

Non-Compliance Information

- (1) (j) One of the medication records reviewed in the Cubby room had been partially completed and was not signed by the parents/guardians. Not ensuring parents are informed of all medication administered in the service may hinder the ongoing care of the child when they return home where medication may be omitted or repeated.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (1) (j) The person in charge will ensure that medication records will be signed by staff and parents. A memo to the staff advising them of same has been received and a signature sheet indicating that the policy has been reviewed by all staff has been received. This issue has also been discussed with staff at their individual supervision sessions. Parents have also been informed via a newsletter of the need to sign for any medications administered.

Supporting documentation submitted

- (1) (j) The above identified memo has been received and the sign off sheet for the staff indicating they are aware of the contents of the medication administration policy.

Summary Comment

The requirements for this Regulation have been met with the assurances given on the corrective and preventive forms and the evidence received.

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

BASIC NEEDS

- The basic needs of the infants and children were met when eating and drinking. Each of the four care rooms in operation on the day of inspection had freely available drinking water for all of the children.
- Meals and snacks were appropriately timed with less than two hours between each meal or snack for example, Creche room 2 served breakfast to the children at 9:30am, served snack at 11:00am and dinner was served just after 12 midday.
- The children in Creche room 1 who were being bottle fed were held and comforted by an adult during their bottle feed.
- The children in Creche room 1 who were less than one year of age were fed their solids while seated in highchairs.
- The children in the senior preschool room were allowed to select what they were having for their afternoon snack and discussed what was available to them from the snacks provided from home.
- Toileting and nappy changing were carried out on a set schedule and when required by the children.
- The staff were observed in Creche room 1 and Creche room 2 to positively interact and chat with the children when they were having their nappies changed.
- The children in the Cubby were supported with toileting and as these younger children were learning to toilet train some of the children required nappies for sleep time only.
- There were potties available should the children learning to toilet train required them.
- The children in all rooms were provided with rest areas and were allowed to rest when they wished.
- The children's mobility in each of the care rooms was not restricted. The children in Creche room 1 who were unable to move freely had their position changed frequently between low level activity units, swing chairs and being held in the arms of the staff. The children in Creche room 2 could move and crawl about independently and were lifted from place to place when required.

SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

- One of the staff members in Creche room 1 was a consistent member of staff in that room, the other member of staff was there to support as the normal staff member was on leave.
- The staff in Creche room 2 had one member of staff who was in this room long term and the other member of staff worked in this room when required and provided relief throughout the service.
- The Cubby had three staff, two of whom had worked in that room for a period of time and the children were comfortable with them.
- The senior preschool room, both staff were new to working in this room on the day of inspection.
- Adults demonstrated warmth and positive regard towards the children in their care. This was demonstrated in Creche room 1 and 2 where the staff comforted, held and supported the children when they were upset, spoke to them during nappy changing and had conversations with the group of children during mealtime.
- Families were spoken to a drop off and collection and it was noted that staff communicated effectively with parents on the day of inspection.
- Communication with parents was via the services online application and also face to face at drop off and collection.

- Transitions in the service were made as easily as possible with staff understanding the transitions and how difficult these can be for example the children in Creche room 1 who were unsettled as they were new to the service were comforted by the staff.
- The service included all children from the local community and supported those as much as possible where English was not their first language.

PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT

- Each of the rooms was comfortable and there was space for the babies and wobblers in Creche room 1 and 2 to move about and to learn how to walk safely. There was soft matting available in each of these rooms.
- The rooms had clearly defined areas of interest and toys were stored on open shelving. The staff in Creche room 2 explained that some of the shelving units with toys were turned in to the wall later in the evening to allow for the cleaning of the toys.
- There was seating for adults in Creche room 1 and Creche room 2 to allow these adults to sit and comfort children and to nurture them while feeding.
- The indoor environment provided for tabletop activities and there was evidence of artwork. Toys were accessible, water bottles with different colours in the water was available in Creche room 2 providing for sensory stimulation.
- Floor toys of bead boards and activity units were available in Creche room 1.
- Materials were freely available and accessible to the children.

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

- The outdoor area was sectioned off into two areas one for the bigger children with a larger climbing area and slides and one for the smaller children with access to ride on toys and push toys.
- There were sand and digging activities also available.
- There was an area for gross motor play opportunities on the slides and climbing frames to challenge each of the children.
- The surface consisted of soft matting to allow for the outdoor space to be used throughout the year.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

- During the summer there was no dedicated programme of activities with free play being evident between meals and snacks and long periods of time was spent outside.
- Language development was noted when songs were being sung and books were being read particularly in the Cubby room.
- Each child was helped to participate in the daily routine and activities and they received the help they needed to play with and beside their peers.
- Children in the Senior Preschool room were observed to make choices in relation to the food they ate for afternoon snack. The children in each room took the opportunity to choose the toys they played with throughout the day.

Non-Compliance Information

BASIC NEEDS

1. There were no bibs worn in Creche room 2 at mealtimes and the soiled tee shirts or vests were not changed. Wearing soiled clothing compromises, the dignity of the child.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1. The service has requested that parents send in extra clothes and staff have been reminded to ensure that any soiled clothes are changed as needed. Parents have been informed via email of the need for extra clothes and the staff have been reminded to change the children's clothes as required and to use protective bibs as needed both at mealtimes and when painting or during messy play.

Supporting documentation submitted

1. The corrective action form has stated that the needs of the children and the dignity of the child will be discussed at the next staff meeting and the agenda for this meeting has been received.

Summary Comment

The requirements for this Regulation have been met and will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

(1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-

(a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and

(b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.

(3) A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, shall ensure that-

(a) a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises,

Compliance Information

- (1) (a) There were suitable and adequate facilities for the children to play in the service both indoor and outside on the day of inspection. There were suitable toys in each of the care rooms for the age range of children being cared for in the room. The outdoor space was divided into 2 sections and catered for the age range of children using each side.
(b) There were adequate facilities for the children to rest during the day in the service. Each room had designated rest areas with cushions, soft matting and circular cushions.
The sleep facilities in Creche room 1 included 6 cots. In Creche room 2 there were 8 cots divided between 2 sleep rooms. The mattresses were all safety mattresses and there was sufficient linen available.
Between the Cubby and Senior pre-school room there were sufficient stackable beds stored in the laundry room opposite. An adequate supply of linen was available.
- (2) (a) The outdoor space was suitable with appropriate toys, was safe as it was surrounded on all sides and the children could not gain access to the road. The gates were locked at 09.45 after all of the children had been dropped off.

Non-Compliance Information

1. (b) Three of the cots in the sleep room attached to the Creche room 2 were not suitable. The height of the bars was at 30cm above the level of the mattress, the suitable height is 50 cm. This low height was not sufficient to prevent a child who might stand up in the cot from falling out of the cot onto the hard surface below.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1. (b) The cots that had low height sides have been removed and have been replaced by a correct standard cot with appropriate height sides. The cots have been added to the risk assessment to ensure the sides are not moved or the height changed.

Supporting documentation submitted

(b) The receipts for the new cots have been received.

Summary Comment

Following receipt of the corrective and preventive action form and the receipts for the new cots the requirements for this Regulation have been met and will be assessed on the next inspection.

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 snacks in the service were provided by parents/guardians and these were stored in the fridge as required.
- The snacks observed in the senior pre-school room consisted of crackers, cheese, cheese dips, yoghurt and fruit.
- The snacks in Creche room 2 included yoghurts, crackers, chopped fruit and fruit smoothies.
- Breakfast provided in Creche room 2 consisted of yoghurt and chopped strawberries.
- Dinner, the lunchtime meal, that was provided by the service to the babies, consisted of mashed potatoes with mushroom and a small amount of pastrami.
- Dinner in all of the remaining rooms consisted of pasta with mushroom and onion in a tomato sauce and pastrami.
- The meat available in the fridge for the two days following the inspection appeared to be adequate having pork mince for one of the days and turkey for the other.

Non-Compliance Information

1. The quantity of meat, the protein source, in the dinner served was insufficient for the numbers of children attending the service. Two Hundred and fifty grams of pastrami was served to 43 pre-school children and 12 school aged children. This was an insufficient amount to ensure that each child received adequate nutrients in their main meal.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1. The person in charge has held a meeting with the cook and the daily and weekly menu has been amended to ensure suitable and adequate food is provided at each meal. The person in charge will review the weekly menu with the cook to ensure adequately nutritious meals are provided in the service.

Supporting documentation submitted

1. The weekly menu has been received and a receipt for the meat purchased the week following the inspection.

Summary Comment

Following review of the corrective and preventive actions and evidence received the requirements for this Regulation have been met and will be assessed on the next inspection.

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 doors to the service were secured, the front door was secured by keypad entry system. The number of which was only known to the staff. The side gate was open to allow parents bring their children into the service and was locked prior to any child going outside to play. This restricted unauthorised access by adults entering the service and ensured the children remained safe in the service.
- The internal doors to the adult toilets, the laundry room and to the front porch area which had access to the offices were all secured by locked doors. The windows were at a height that ensured the children could not access them.
- There were no blinds on the windows in the care rooms and the blinds in the sleep rooms were secured out of reach.
- The patio doors to the outdoor area had a large white bar through and therefore indicated the presence of the door, this ensured the children did not fall or walk into the doors.
- The staircase was used by the school aged children only.
- The highchairs were in good condition and fitted with safety harness.
- The toys and play equipment were safe and had no evidence of pinch or crush points.
- There were no baby walkers observed in the service.
- There were no high shelving units that could potentially fall on a child observed.
- All flexes and cables checked were in good condition.
- The storage facilities were inaccessible both indoors and outdoors.
- There was safe storage for cleaning agents on high shelves and in the locked presses in each room.
- The kitchen was upstairs and inaccessible to the children.

Infection Control:

- The nappy changing procedure was followed by the staff in both Creche room 1 and 2. Single use gloves and disposable aprons were used at each nappy change. Following each nappy change the changing unit was cleaned down with suitable disinfectant and both the hands of the staff and the child were washed.
- Contaminated hand towels were disposed of in pedal operated lidded bins.
- Hand washing was observed in the Cubby room and the senior pre-school room after outdoor play and before snack time.
- The signed sheets for the completion of daily and weekly cleaning were observed to be completed in the Creche room 1 and in the senior pre-school room.

Administration of Medication:

- Medication was not observed to be administered on the day of inspection.

Safe Sleep:

- Sleep checks were completed every 10 minutes, these were recorded on the services care application.
- On the day of inspection, a staff member remained in the sleep room to monitor the children as the temperature of the room was above the safe limit of 20°C.

Fire Safety:

- Fire exit doors were not obstructed during the inspection and the fire doors were alarmed to ensure the staff knew they were opened by a child as the outdoor area may not be secured during drop off and collection times.
- The fire extinguishers were safely secured to the walls.

Outing:

- No outings had taken place in the service.

Non-Compliance Information

Infection Control:

1. Hand washing was not observed in Creche room 2 before snack time. Not washing children's hands before eating poses a risk of illness where contaminated hands are used when eating.
2. The floors in Creche room 2 were sticky to walk on and therefore not adequately cleaned. This poses a risk of contamination and cross infection to the children in this room where the young children aged between one and two years crawl, walk and sit on the floor.
3. The door handles in the senior pre-school room were sticky to touch, this contamination poses a risk of cross infection to the staff and pre-school children.

Safe Sleep:

4. The sleep room temperature in the sleep room attached to Creche room 1 was recorded at 23.6°C when in use. The sleep room temperature in the sleep room used attached to Creche room 2 was recorded at 24.3°C. The doors had been opened and a fan turned on however these measures did not reduce the temperature of the sleep room. The service was unable to obtain safe sleep room temperatures and therefore a staff member remained in the sleep rooms to physically monitor the children while sleeping. Where a child could not be accommodated in the sleep room this child was sent home early.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

Infection Control:

1. A memo regarding hand washing has been given to all staff and they have been reminded of the importance of hand washing. This is also be discussed at the next team meeting and is on the agenda for that meeting. The Rufus handwashing material has been distributed and the topic of hand washing is being discussed with the children at circle time.
2. The staff have been reminded of the need to clean floors especially after spills. The floors have been cleaned by a specialist cleaner with hot water and suitable detergent. The floors are also being steam cleaned. Management have checked the floors and they are no longer sticky. The service has introduced a steam mop for the daily cleaning to ensure this issue is addressed.
3. Staff have been reminded to ensure all surfaces and door handles are cleaned frequently and the staff have been allocated enough time to ensure this is done correctly.

Safe Sleep:

4. Staff have been reminded of the need to keep the rooms cooled when children are sleeping and the service is to reassess the need to purchase additional cooling units should the need for same arise. Should temperatures in the sleep room rise above safe levels the registered provider has committed to having a staff member remain in the sleep room to monitor the children continuously.

Supporting documentation submitted

Infection Control:

- 1, 2 & 3: The cleaning is scheduled for discussion at the next team meeting. Hand washing is on the agenda for the next team meeting, the agenda have been received.

Safe Sleep:

4. Brochures for potential cooling units have been received.

Summary Comment

Following receipt of the corrective and preventive actions and the assurances given regarding the cleaning and the safety of the children sleeping the requirements for this Regulation have been met and will be assessed on the next inspection.

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.

(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.

Compliance Information

(3) (a) The service ensured that no person gained access to the premises except the children attending, the parent or guardian dropping the child and the staff who worked in the service.

(b) A record was kept in the reception area of the entry into the premises by any visitor to the service all entrances into the service were approved by member of staff.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) One child in the Cubby room had not been signed into the service on the online checking in system as they were attending on a day that they would not normally be attending the service. Not ensuring all children were appropriately signed into the service may pose a risk in the event of an emergency where the building needs to be evacuated and this child may not be accounted for.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1) The online booking system has been updated and will allow for children not scheduled to attend be signed into the service.

Supporting documentation submitted

The assurances give on the corrective and preventive action form has been accepted as evidence.

Summary Comment

The requirements for this Regulation have been met with the actions as outlined above correcting the non-compliance.

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) The registered provider insured that staff trained in first aid for children were at all times immediately available to the children, six of the staff had up to date training in FAR first aid.

(2) (a) There was a suitably equipped first aid box safely stored in each of the care rooms.

(b) The first aid equipment stored in these boxes was available to the children at all times.

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 fire fighting 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) The person in charge ensured a record was retained of all fire drills that took place on the premises, the last fire drill took place on 09.08.22. Records for all fire drills completed in 2022 were available.

(b) The record of maintenance for the firefighting equipment was available and was completed in August 2021. The record of the type and maintenance of the smoke alarms was available and this was last completed in May 2022.

(4) There was a procedure notice displayed in each of the care rooms.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (a) of sound and stable structure,*
- (b) safe and secure,*
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated*

Compliance Information

- (1)
 - (a) The service appeared to be of sound and stable structure with no obvious defects noted.
 - (b) The entrance to the building was secured with a keypad entry system and the side gate which was open to allow for children to be dropped after the individual care rooms with closed at 9:45 prior to any children going to the outdoor areas to play
 - (c) There was adequate and suitable lighting provided throughout the premises and the lighting in the sleep rooms could be dimmed to allow for a peaceful sleep. protective covers were fitted to the light fittings and the service was ventilated through openable windows.

Non-Compliance Information

(c) The ventilation in the service was through openable windows. This was assisted by mechanical fans which moved the air. On the day of inspection, the temperatures in the premises could not be maintained at appropriate limits of 22°C in the care rooms. The care room temperatures were recorded in Creche room 1: 24°C, Creche room 2: 24.4°C the Cubby room was recorded at 24.6°C and the senior pre-school room was recorded at 24.2°C. Due to the high room temperatures the children in the Cubby and senior pre-school room were not facilitated with sleep on the day of inspection as the care room within which they were sleeping could not be cooled. Not being able to control temperatures of the care rooms impedes the care of the children and allowing them to play and rest in a comfortable environment.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The service is looking into purchasing small air-cooling units to assist in reducing the temperatures of the care rooms. The person in charge has committed to ensure the safety of the children.

Supporting documentation submitted

The commitment of the person in charge to monitor the room temperatures was given on the corrective and preventive action form.

Summary Comment

Following the assurances given by the person in charge the requirements for this Regulation have been met and will be assessed on the next inspection.