

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015KY028
--------------------------	-------------

<b>Name of Service:</b>	Camp Community Childcare CLG
-------------------------	------------------------------

<b>Address of Service:</b>	Ballinknockane, Camp, Tralee, Co. Kerry
----------------------------	---

<b>Eircode:</b>	V92 RYW3
-----------------	----------

<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Duncan Christie
-------------------------------------	-----------------

<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
----------------------	--------------------------------

<b>Date(s) of Inspection:</b>	04/05/2023
-------------------------------	------------

<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	48	PM	40
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	----

<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Áras an Phobail, Deans Lane, Tralee, Co. Kerry.
---	---

<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	N. Reidy
----------------------------------	----------

<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
---------------------------------	----------------

### Description of service

Camp Community Childcare CLG is a community based early years service that is registered to provide sessional, part-time and full day care to children aged between 0 and 6 years. The service operates between the hours of 8:30 am and 6 pm Monday to Friday inclusive. The service consists of 3 playrooms based in a single storey building that adjoins the community hall. There is a designated enclosed outdoor play area available each day to the children attending.

### Staffing

There are 15 adults employed to work with the children, 1 adult is the designated person in charge and a 2<sup>nd</sup> adult deputy in charge who work on administrative duties and also provide assistance in the playrooms if required. The registered provider does not work with the children.

The inspector was informed that a number of staff are currently undertaking Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI) in childcare training at Level 7.

### 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.

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 designated person in charge, the deputy 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.*

*(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.*

*(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) There is a designated person in charge and a named deputy .

(b) At all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named deputy is on the premises.

(2) The person in charge confirmed that 4 adults had begun working at the service since the previous inspection undertaken on 21/02/2022, therefore recruitment records in relation to these 4 adults were reviewed.

(a) 4 written validated references were on file from a past employer.

(b) 4 written validated references were on file from a source other than a past employer.

(c) A Garda Vetting Disclosure was on file for each of the 4 adults.

(d) Not applicable as the 4 adults in question did not reside outside the jurisdiction for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months.

(3) The procedures specified in paragraph (2) were carried out in respect of the 4 adults as outlined above prior to they were appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

(4) The adults working directly with the children had attained Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI) in childcare training at Level 5 and above.

## 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) The registered provider did ensure that an adequate number of adults were working directly with the children at all times.

(2) The 3 playrooms were in operation on the day of the inspection.

#### Creche

There were 3 staff caring for 13 children aged between 1 and 3 years, 5 children attending a part time basis and 8 children attending on a full day care basis.

#### Junior pre-school room

There were 3 staff caring for 13 children aged between 3 years and 4 years, 3 children attending on a sessional basis, 3 children attending on a part-time basis and 7 children were attending on a full day care basis.

#### Senior pre-school room

There were 3 staff caring for 22 children aged between 4 years and 5 years, 5 children were attending on a sessional basis, 13 children were attending on a part-time basis and 4 children attending on a full day care basis.

The adult child ratio was correct.

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

### 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) Of the 15 records inspected, 6 records had all the required detail as per(a) to (i) inclusive.

#### Non-Compliance Information

- (1) The following details were not maintained in writing for 9 records inspected: -
- (b) the date on which the child first attended the service.
  - (g) the name and telephone number of the child's registered medical practitioner
  - (h) record of immunisations, if any, received by the child;

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

##### Corrective and Preventive Action

The designated person in charge stated that on May 8<sup>th</sup> new registration forms were sent to parents to update their information together with a letter requesting to provide all vaccination records. In future information as per (b), (g) and (h) will be included on all registration forms.

##### Supporting documentation submitted

The statement provided is accepted as evidence.

#### Summary Comment

The requirement for the regulation has been met.

### 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

The following records were kept:

- (h) details of attendance by a 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 and incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.

### 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.*

#### Compliance Information

##### BASIC NEEDS

- Children enjoyed free movement in the playrooms and within the outdoor play area that was used at various times during the day.
- Nappy changing was carried out in the designated nappy changing room in the creche in a timely manner as needed during the day.

### SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

- A key worker system was in place supporting the children to form and sustain secure relationships with the staff caring for them.
- The staff were kind, friendly, enthusiastic, and gentle in their interactions with the children and were observed listening to children and responding to their needs.
- The inspector observed the smaller children who were woke up after sleeping were held in the arms of the staff until they were ready to start playing.
- The children were offered choices at times during the day if they wanted to play indoors or outside.
- The adults demonstrated with enthusiasm the learning journals and observations recorded for children attending and the play-based curriculum established from the children's emerging interests. A record of emerging interests was displayed on the walls.
- A team spirit that was evident among the staff in how they supported and communicated with each other and around the children and their needs.
- A record for the younger children attending the service is given to parents each day that outlined the child's sleep, food intake, toileting and relevant experiences during the day.
- Children from each of the playrooms played outside during the day which facilitated them meeting and playing with their siblings.
- An activity wall with a selection of colourful photographs demonstrated the activities the children participated in the previous months.
- The learning journals with observation records, future curriculum planning, photographs of the various activities the children took part in in the indoor and outdoor environment were kept for the children attending.
- Individually labelled boxes were provided for children's artwork that they wanted to take home as they so wished.
- Pictures of the national schools the older children were going on to were displayed at children's low level in line with the transition to primary school curriculum theme.

### PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT

- There was a variety of toys provided in each of the playrooms that were accessible to the children on low level open shelving and on the floor.
- The staff informed the inspector that toys are rotated throughout the year from the large supply in storage.
- Since the last inspection a variety of toys were available in the creche that were stored on the open low-level shelving and on the floor that included small world figures, puzzles, matching games, musical instruments, a variety of vehicles, dolls and buggies, tools, kitchen appliances with pots, pans, food items and a selection of books.
- There is a designated area fenced off for the 0 to 1 year age group in the creche, this was not in use on the day of the inspection.
- There were butterfly boxes in line with the theme of the life cycle of the butterfly, a tadpole tank with large picture cards demonstrating the stages of tadpole development, a large cardboard chicken coop and children's sunflower planting pots stored on the window ledges.
- The rest areas in each of the rooms consisted of low-level seating, cushions and matting where children could rest and relax or take time out from play as they required during the day.
- The rooms were colourfully decorated with for example. various artwork the children had completed and educational posters. Staff had sent children's artwork to an Irish artist who returned in writing an acknowledgment of the "amazing artwork" and a calendar with his paintings which were displayed in the senior playroom.
- Adult seating was in place to facilitate comforting and nurturing young children.

### 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 provides all food for the children’s meal times.
- The main meal is supplied by an outside catering company who deliver the meals twice weekly basis to the service.
- A designated adult is employed to prepare all the food and deliver them to the respective playrooms for the mealtimes.
- The food provided is in line with the Healthy Eating Policy of the service. Meals observed by the inspector included for the main meal was spaghetti Bolognese and the snacks consisted of pancakes, sausage rolls, chicken goujons, a selection of chopped fruit: - strawberries, grapes, oranges and blueberries with water to drink.
- Appropriate cutlery and plates were provided for the child’s age and stage of development. Staff were observed sitting around the tables aiding and assisting the younger children to feed themselves and encouraging the older children. Drinking water was provided in each of the playrooms and the children’s drinks bottles were made available to them. It was acknowledged that the staff in the creche were figuring out the most appropriate area to store the drink’s bottles for the smaller children attending.
- Feeding chairs were provided for the younger children at mealtimes and the older children sat on the low-level chairs at the low-level tables.
- The inspector observed that at mealtimes the children were given ample time to eat without being rushed in an atmosphere that was relaxed where conversations ensued between the children and their peers and with the staff caring for them.

### 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 were appropriately secured to prevent children from exiting the building unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premise.
- The cleaning agents observed were stored within the secured cupboards and on high level shelving in the playrooms.

##### Infection Control:

- Children's toiletries were individually labelled and stored out of the reach of the children.
- Children were observed washing their hands after using the toilet, after playing in the outdoor area and prior to mealtimes.
- There was warm water, liquid hand soap and disposable paper hand towels provided at the wash hand basins to facilitate effective handwashing by the children and by the adults.
- Children's soothers were hygienically stored and individually labelled.
- The soft cushions, seating and matting were observed to be clean and dry.

### 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 on file. 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 57 children.

The expiry date of the current insurance cover was 27/03/'24

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report Pre School