

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015KY114		
Name of Service:	Sneem Community Preschool & Crèche		
Address of Service:	North Square, Sneem, Co. Kerry		
Eircode:	V93 RW72		
Name of Registered Provider:	Michelle Walsh		
Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional		
Date of Inspection:	27/06/2023		
No of pre-school children:	AM	19	PM 15
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Child and Family Agency, Social Work Dept Coolnagarrane, Skibbereen, Co Cork P81 PD78		
Inspection undertaken by:	M Carney		
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	N/A		

Description of service

Sneem Community Pre-School & Creche is registered to provide a full day care, early years care and education for children aged from 0- 6years. It currently accepts children aged from 1 year to 6 years.

In addition, it provides an afterschool service.

It operates from 09:00am to 17 :30pm daily and 09:00am to 13:15pm on Fridays.

The service is situated within a purpose-built, two-storey building situated in the centre of Sneem village on the Ring of Kerry.

The service accommodates a creche room on the ground floor with a separate sleep room, toilet and nappy changing facilities. There is also a welcome lobby, office and laundry room.

Situated on the first floor is a large playroom, sensory room, toilet facilities and kitchen/staff room.

The children have direct access to a secured outdoor play area.

Car parking is available only on the public road.

Staffing

There are 8 adults attached to the service. This includes the registered provider who does not work with the children; the registered provider has employed 6 childcare professionals and a cleaner to operate the service.

Each of the childcare professionals have completed Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI) ranging from Level 5 to Level 9.

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 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

An Immediate Action Notice was issued to the service on the 28 June 2023 in respect of non-compliances identified under Regulation 23 – Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of the child.

The detail is described within the content of the report under Regulation 23.

A referral to Better Start Quality Development was initiated in relation to non-compliances identified under Regulation 19 – Health, welfare and development of the child.

Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the deputy, 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)

The registered provider had designated a manager as the person in charge of service operation. A deputy had been designated to deputise as required.

(b)

On the day of the inspection the deputy was the adult in charge. Review of the rosters indicated that the deputy was on the premises for the duration of service provision.

(2)(a) & (b)

There were 8 adults employed in the service in total. Each of their personal files were reviewed and the following information was found –

There were 14 written past employers references on file with records of verification attached.

There were 2 written references from sources that the registered provider considered to be reputable, with records of validation attached.

(c)

There were 8 up to date Garda vetting disclosures on file, dated from September 2021 to August 2022.

(d)

Police vetting was available for 3 adults who had lived outside the jurisdiction of Ireland for a period longer than 6 consecutive months. Two of the vetting disclosures had suitable translations attached.

(4)

Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI) in childcare training were on file for the staff members that worked directly with the children each staff members, ranging from Level 5 to Level 9.

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)
On the day of the inspection there was an adequate number of adults working directly with the children.
- (2)
In the creche room there were 8 children aged from 2 to 3 years attending on a full day care basis with 2 adults in attendance.
A summer camp was operating in the pre-school room; there were 11 children aged 3 to 5 years and 2 children over 6 years attending on a full day care basis with 2 adults in attendance.
The adult child ratios were correct.

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)

Each of the children's enrolment forms in the creche room were reviewed, a total of 13, and the following information was detailed on each form –

- (a) the name and date of birth of the child;
- (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;
- (i) written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency.

Non-Compliance Information

The following information was not available on the forms which were reviewed –

- (b) the date on which the child first attended the service was not included on 4 forms;
- (c) the space to include the date on which the child ceased to attend the service was not detailed on any of the forms;
- (g) the name and telephone number of the child's registered medical practitioner on 3 forms;
- (h) record of immunisations, if any, received by the child was not included on 4 forms;

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action & Supporting Documentation Submitted

The registered provider stated that a member of staff has been designated to check that the children's enrolment forms to endure that they have been adequately completed.

A policy stating thus was submitted.

Summary Comment

Documentation to evidence that the above breach had been suitably addressed was reviewed and found to be satisfactory in meeting the Requirements.

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:

- (a) the name, position, qualifications and experience of the person in charge and of every other employee, unpaid worker and contractor;*
- (b) details of the class of service and the age profile of children for which the service is registered to provide services;*
- (c) details of the adult: child ratios in the service;*
- (d) the type of care or programme provided in the service;*
- (e) the facilities available;*
- (f) the opening hours and fees;*
- (g) the policies, procedures and statements the service is required to maintain in accordance with Regulation 10;*
- (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)
- The service maintained the relevant information in respect of the service in respect of Regulation 16 (a) to (i)
- (j) The deputy made available an administration of medication recording book to detail any medications that may be required to a pre-school child attending the service. There were no entries.
- (k) The service had a record book to detail any accidents or incidents that had occurred in the service. Each entry had been counter signed by the child’s parent to evidence that the information had been relayed.

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

Basic needs of the children:

- The children's families provided their children with all food and drink requirements.
- As a full day care service meals were offered in a timely manner. Morning snack was conducted at approximately 10:30, lunch was offered at 13:00pm and a mid-afternoon snack was provided at 15:00 pm.
- Parents and guardians supplied their children with all their food and drink provisions.
- Lunchtime was observed in the creche, it was found to be a relaxing, unhurried and sociable event. Staff members sat with the children and assisted with feeding as required. Each child had a hot meal which had been warmed in the kitchen and presented to the children promptly.
- The children in the pre-school room had access to their drink bottles, so that they could help themselves to drinks when thirsty.
- The pre-school children had unrestricted access to 2 toilets and 2 wash hand basins that was installed at child height.
- Liquid soap, and paper towels were available for hand washing purposes and hand wash posters were strategically visible to the children to prompt the correct hand washing technique.
- The children attending the creche had access to 1 low toilet, a nappy changing unit and 2 child height vanity units with inset wash hand basins for their comfort and to encourage independent toileting.
- Pots and step ups were available to meet the children's individual toileting requirements.
- Staff members supervised toilet visits and gently prompted flushing of toilets, handwashing and disposing of paper towels.
- Nappy changing was conducted in a timely manner.
- Aprons were readily available for the children to wear to protect clothing during arts and crafts and messy play activities.
- Childrens coats and bags were stored on low hook to encourage self-care skills in both settings, with ample space for personal items, outdoor shoes and art works to be taken home.

- Spare clothes were available for the children attending the creche room, for use in the event of spillages.
- Bibs were available.
- The children in the pre-school room had a cosy rest area which was furnished with low child sized couches, matting and bean bags. Nearby displayed books prompted literacy and quiet time.
- There was sufficient clear floor space in both the creche and pre-school room for the children to enjoy free play in a supervised manner.
- In addition, the children had access to a secured garden to the rear of the premises for fresh air, robust outdoor play and change of scenery.

Physical and material environment:

- Sneem Community Pre-School and Creche comprised of a 2-storey premises with a creche room situated on the ground floor and a spacious pre-school room on the first floor.
- The pre-school room was furnished with sufficient child sized tables and chairs and had many mobile, low open display units to allow children to access the wide range of play materials and resources. It was laid out in a thematic manner to initiate purposeful play and socialisation.
- There was an arts and crafts area, circle time space, interactive white board, playhouse and home corner with utensils and dress up to encourage pretend play.
- There were construction items, with hard hats, work benches, trucks and cars.
- There were generous supplies of tabletop activities such as puzzles, matching games, stitching and peg boards.
- The children in the creche had direct access to the secured outdoor play area. The space was clean and well maintained.
- It provided artificial grass for the children safety and comfort.
- The outdoor setting was laid out in a considered manner with many well-maintained gross motor skill apparatuses. There were playhouses, climbing frame, slides and ramps for balance practice.
- Fixed see-saws, ride on toys, balance bikes, cars and tractors provided imaginative gross motor skill play.
- Fence mounted chalk boards and sensory activities provided fun and enjoyment.
- A canopied area allowed for outdoor play during damper weather.
- Sand and water tables were equipped with many utensils to provide fun and sensory play.

- On the day of the inspection, the children attending the creche were observed to be happy and engaged whilst playing in the outdoor play area. Children attending the summer camp in the pre-school room were observed to enjoy the painting activity where ice cream cones were creatively crafted and displayed.

Supporting relations around the children:

- The staff members were observed to be kind, patient and caring to each child, for example during one-to-one tabletop activities and small group engagement.
- Staff members conversed at the children's level and offered comfort and soothing tones when required.
- Supervision of toileting and nappy changing was conducted in a dignified manner, the children were spoken to and gently made comfortable.
- Each child attending the creche had daily communication books in use for the relaying of information to parents regarding their child's attendance, meals eaten, sleep times and toileting routines.
- The service operated a digital group application for parents to receive notices regarding the service.

Implementation of the programme of care:

- Daily timetables were displayed to evidence that sufficient time was allocated for free play, meals, circle time and outdoor play.
- It was reported however, that as it was the summertime and summer camp was in progress a more flexible, relaxed and child centred programme was in place.

Non-Compliance Information

Basic Needs of the children:

1. Although there were no challenging behaviours observed on the day of the inspection, on review of the accident incident book it was detected that there was a concerning high number of accidents and incidents documented. There were 27 entries in total recorded for the months of May and June 2023.

There were 5 entries recorded in 1 day - 15 May, and 4 on the 15 June. On closer inspection it was revealed that most of the incidents and accidents involved behaviours such as the throwing of toys, hitting and biting children and swearing. Rosters for the day indicated that the adult child ratios were compliant which suggested that adult supervision was sufficient.

Physical and Material Environment:

2. The creche room was not laid out in an inviting and considered manner. It was bland and lacked a range of play experiences and opportunities for the 8 children attending on the day of the inspection. There was 1 low wall unit which housed only many soft toys and plastic trucks and cars.

3. Chairs were stacked and not accessible to the children to sit down as required at the outset of the inspection.

4. Tabletop activities were stored on high shelving above the rest area and not accessible to the children.

5. The rest area consisted of a 1 small couch. It was noted that during story time, as the childcare professional was sitting on the couch there was only space for 1 child.

The above issues were discussed with the deputy and consequently agreed that a referral to Better Start Quality Development would be initiated by the inspector.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action & Supporting Documentation Submitted

The registered provider stated that the service has engaged with Better Start Quality Development in relation to the non-compliances that were identified under Regulation 19. An initial visit was conducted on the 09 August, and an additional visit has been planned for 14 September. Each staff member has engaged and working with the programme.

1. Training around the recording and reporting of all accidents and incidents has taken place.

2, 3, 4, & 5.

The creche room has been laid out in accordance with support and advice from Better Start.

Photographs of the new lay out included children's accessibility to tabletop activities, chairs positioned around tables for children to sit on and a, a well-furnished inviting rest area.

Summary Comment

Documentation to evidence that the above breaches had been rectified were reviewed and found to be satisfactory in meeting the Requirements.

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 parents and guardians supplied their children with their food and drink items.
- Lunches were stored in both the small fridge in the creche room and in the large fridge in the kitchen on the first floor. It was reported that the children attending the creche had their hot meals stored in the larger fridge. They were heated in the kitchen and then brought down to the children.
- Plates and cutlery were available to the children as required.
- A healthy eating policy was in place which was adhered to as observed from lunches eaten.
- Children were seen eating healthy and nutritious lunches such as sandwiches, cold meats and cheeses, rolls, savoury wraps, seasonal fruits such as strawberries, yogurts, rice cakes and chopped vegetables.
- Plates, placemats and cutlery were available as required.

Non-Compliance Information

1. The children in the creche room did not have access to their drinks.
2. It was observed that some of the children in the pre-school room had juices in their water bottles. Only water or milk is recommended for children.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action & Supporting Documentation Submitted

The registered provider stated the following –

1. That the children now have access to their water bottles.
A photograph showing accessibility of drinks was submitted.
2. That the parents and guardians are reminded that only water or milk is to be offered to the children.
An up-dated healthy eating policy was submitted to illustrate this issue.

Summary Comment

The Requirements of the Regulation have been met.

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 setting was suitably secured. An electronic code pad was in place so that the children could not leave the premises unsupervised and unauthorised entry was restricted.
- Some of the internal doors were suitably secured, such as the adult toilet door and kitchen door.
- to the children.
- Staff members personal belongings were store out of reach of the children.
- Play materials were found to be in a good state of repair with no pinch points or sharp edges.
- Cables and flexes were not accessible to the children.
- Openable windows had child safety catches installed.
- Some of the low glazed windows had visibility strips applied.
- The emergency exit doors were unobstructed.
- The stairwell was well lit with non-slip surfacing. Two handrails installed at child and adult level were in place.
- Cleaning materials, sluice room and the laundry room was not accessible to the children

Infection Control:

- Sanitising units were placed out of reach of the children for adult use.
- Good hand washing practise were observed with children washing hands after using the toilets, after messy play and prior to snacks and lunch.
- Protective gloves and single use aprons were available to the adults in the creche room for nappy changing.
- Non-contact pedal bins were situated throughout the service.
- Tissues were available to the children for nasal hygiene.
- It was observed that the service employed a cleaner daily. During the course of the inspection the cleaner was seen thoroughly cleaning areas that had been used and then vacated by the children.

Administration of Medication:

- It was reported that the staff members were familiar with the procedures that are to be followed in the event of a child requiring medications.
- Temperature reducing medications were stored in the staff office. The expiry date was checked and found to be in date.
- It was evidenced that the staff had completed training to administer an emergency medication as required.

Safe Sleep:

- The service provided a designated sleep room which was situated on the ground floor. It had a viewing panel.
- The room was furnished with 4 standard cots.
- The deputy made available historic sleep check records which evidenced that 10-minute checks were conducted and the position, colour and breathing of the child was monitored.
- Children over the age of 2 years had access to low beds for sleep as required.
- Bedding and linen and cellular blankets were readily available. It was reported that the items were laundered after single use.

Fire Safety:

- The fire door was unobstructed.
- Fire cylinders were tethered to the walls.
- In conversation with the deputy it was reported that staff were familiar with the procedures that are required to be followed in the event of a fire.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. Visibility strips had not been applied to a low set glazed window in the sleep room posing a risk of a child banging into the glass.
2. A roller blind attached to a glazed fire door in the sleep room was broken and could not be raised which posed a risk of obstruction.
3. The children had potential unsupervised access to the storage room and toilet in the sleep room as the door were ajar.

Infection Control:

4. The thermostatically controlled water was above the recommended 43 degrees and registered 66.9 degrees Celsius, which was a scald risk to the children. This issue was identified at the previous inspection in August 2021. According to the CAPA response, the manager at the time stated that the water was to be heated at night as opposed to being on during the day in order to reduce the risk to the children, however it was found on that this had not sufficiently reduced the temperature of the water.

An Immediate Action Notice was issued on the 28 June 2023.

5. Sengenic bins were in use which pose a risk of cross infection.

6. It was reported that there were children attending the pre-school room on the first floor that required nappy changing and this function was carried out in the sensory room on the floor matting.

7. The nappy changing policy did not state that the children's hand are to be washed after nappy changing.

Safe Sleep:

8. The ambient room temperature in the sleep room registered above the recommended 16 – 20 degrees Celsius, registering between 23 – 24.4 degrees Celsius during the course of the inspection despite fan beings put to use. This issue was also non-compliant at the previous inspection. The CAPA response detailed that fan's had immediately been purchased and had assisted with reducing the sleep room temperatures.

An Immediate Action Notice was issued on the 28 June 2023.

9. Only 2 of the cots had mattresses in-situ.

10. One of the cots was used for storage.

11. One of the cots was placed next to the vanity unit with inset basin and posed a climbing risk.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action & Supporting Documentation Submitted

The registered provider stated the following –

1. Visibility strips have now been applied to prevent collision.

A photograph was submitted to evidence this.

2. A newly purchased roller blind in the sleep room has been installed

A photograph was submitted.

3. The doors leading to the toilet and storage cupboard have been secured, so that the children in the sleep room can no longer access these areas

A photograph of the secured doors with stowed keys out of reach of the children was submitted.

4. A plumber has adjusted the thermostatically water to register below 43 degrees Celsius and to prevent scalds.

Relevant documentation was submitted and a daily check list to evidence that the staff members will check water temperatures on a daily basis.

5. Two non-contact nappy disposable bins have been purchased

A photograph depicting bins was submitted.

6. Children requiring nappy changing on the first floor will have their nappies changed on the ground floor nappy changing room until works have been completed.

7. The nappy changing policy has been updated to include that children's hands will be washed after nappy changing.

An updated nappy changing policy was submitted.

8. Wall mounted thermostats have been purchased and installed so that staff members can check daily ambient room temperatures and ensure they remain within normal ranges.

A photograph of the newly installed thermostats was submitted.

9. Four new mattresses have been purchased and placed in the cots.

Photographs of the newly purchased mattresses were submitted.

10. It was stated that the cots will not be used for storage.

A photograph of 4 cots made ready for the children's sleep times for use was submitted.

11. It was stated in the CAPA document that the vanity unit and water pipes situated in the sleep room was removed by a plumber and the wall made good. This allowed for additional room and the cots were now well spaced and there were no climbing hazards accessible to the children. The service was very happy with this new spacious layout.

A photograph of the sleep room was submitted to evidence the new arrangements of cots in a safe position.

Summary Comment

A wide range of documents in the form of photographs and polices were submitted to evidence that the above issues had been addressed. They were reviewed and found to adequately meet the Requirements of the noncompliant aspects of this Regulation.

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 staff members personal files identified that 4 adults had completed first aid responder training (FAR) with expiry dates ranging from November 2023 to August 2024.

(2)(a) & (b)

Both care rooms had their own first aid boxes which were well stocked with the required requisites. There were additional first aid items stored in the staff office.

The first aid boxes were stored safely out of the reach of the children and temperature reducing medicine was stored in the staff office.

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)

A record of monthly fire drills was maintained. The most recent fire drill had taken place on the 17 May 2023. It was recorded that there was a total of 22 children with 5 adults supervising the drill.

(b)

The service maintained a written record of the number, type and maintenance record of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the setting. The most recent service had taken place on 22 August 2022.

(4)

A fire evacuation plan was displayed in each playroom and in the lobby.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

An up-to-date insurance certificate was submitted to the early years office the day following the inspection, on the 27 June 2023. It detailed that the service was insured to operate as a full day care service for up to 30 children. The expiry date was the 27 March 2024

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,*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Non-Compliance Information

- (a) The paint on the wall behind the fridge in the creche room was flaking and there were holes in the plaster.
- (e) As there were children attending the pre-school room that required nappy changing, a nappy changing facility was required.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action & Supporting Documentation Submitted

The registered provider stated that –

- (a)
Both the exterior of the building and the interior has been repainted.
Photographs of the newly decorated premises was submitted to evidence that the necessary improvements had been completed.
- (b)
The local county Childcare Committee had visited the service to make plans for installing an additional nappy changing facility on the first floor of the service and it was decided that the works would be done when the service was closed, and funds could be arranged. Until then, any child attending the pre-school that required a nappy change would be taken to the ground floor changing facility.

Summary Comment

Photographs to evidence that the building had been redecorated were found to be satisfactory in meeting the relevant breach. However, a nappy changing station has not as yet been installed on the first floor, so this remains outstanding. It will be reviewed at the next inspection.