

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015KY120
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Name of Service:	Sunflowers Childcare
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Address of Service:	4 Pembroke Square, Balloonagh, Tralee, Co. Kerry
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Eircode:	V92 KT68
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Name of Registered Provider:	Kate Guerin
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	25/05/2023
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No of pre-school children:	AM	43	PM	35
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	134 Bank Place, Mallow, Cork. P51 EC59
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Inspection undertaken by:	E. Friel
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Title:	Early Years Inspector
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Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(J) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Conditions if applicable	Not Applicable
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Description of service

Sunflowers Childcare is a private early years facility offering a choice of full day care, part-time and sessional services. The service is registered for children aged between 0 – 6 years of age and children currently attend aged from 3 months to 6 years. The service operates between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm and the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) sessions are facilitated in the morning from 7:45 am until 11:45 am and in the afternoon from 12 noon until 3:00 pm. School age care is available, and the service is opened 51 weeks of the year.

The service is located in a residential housing estate in the urban town of Tralee in County Kerry. It operates from a two-storey house purposefully converted for use as a childcare facility. The entrance area on the ground floor leads to two of the four care rooms in the service namely the Creche/Wobblers and Toddler care rooms, there is also a kitchen and dedicated sleep room for the Creche/Wobblers. On the first floor there are two further care rooms: Pre-school and Pre-school Activity care rooms along with an office and storeroom. A secure outdoor play area is accessible from the Wobbler care room for the children to play at the rear of the service and a carpark is located at the front of the service.

Staffing

There are currently fifteen staff employed in the service including the registered provider, two AIM support workers, two kitchen staff and one student who is also employed as a staff member. In addition, there is a student on practical placement.

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 and 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

A referral to Better Start, National Early Years Quality Development, was made on 29/05/2023, with the permission of the registered provider. An Immediate Action was issued 7 June 2023 in relation to Regulation 23 - Fire Safety, the obstruction of the fire doors in both the Creche/Wobbler and Toddler care rooms. In a response dated the 8 June the manager stated that the gates had both been removed and provided photographic evidence of the two fire doors with no gates in front of them.

Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, manager, assistant manager, 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 registered provider ensured that the service had a designated person in charge, who was the assistant manager, and a named person who was available to deputise on the day of inspection. Both the manager and the registered provider arrived in the service within 30 minutes of the inspector signing in.
 - (b) The manager, assistant manager and named person were available throughout the inspection.
 - (c) A management structure was visible in the hallway indicating the order of management seniority.
- (2) The manager confirmed that two staff members had begun working in the service since the last inspection on 2 November 2022, therefore recruitment records in regard to these two adults and the student on placement were reviewed.

- (a) (b) There were three validated references from past employers and three validated references from sources other than past employers.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures from the National Vetting Bureau were available for all three adults.
- (d) International police vetting was not required for all three adults as documentation on file evidenced that none of the adults had lived out of the State for a period of six consecutive months or longer.
- (4) One staff member held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications and the student on practice placement did not require qualifications.

Non-Compliance Information

- (4) One staff member, did not hold a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education as listed on the National Framework of Qualifications or have a letter a letter of Eligibility to practice from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (4) The manager stated that a temporary Letter of Temporary Permission to Practice has been requested from The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. In the future, all staff will have the required documentation in place prior to commencing employment.

Supporting documentation submitted

- (4) A copy of a Letter of Temporary Permission to Practise from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth was received in the office of the inspectorate on 28 June 2023 for the staff member.

Summary Comment

The requirement for this Regulation has been met.

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 ensured that there, were at all times, an adequate number of adults working with the pre-school children.

(2) The ratio of adults to children was maintained at all times. In addition to the staff in the table below there were two floating staff members covering staff breaks and busy periods such as toileting of the children.

Room/ age range	Adults	Children (am)	Children (pm)
Creche/Wobblers (15 months – 2 years 2 months)	2	7	5
Toddlers (2 years -3 years)	2	10	8
Pre-school Activity (2 years 8 months -3 years)	1	11	9
Pre-school (3 years-5 years)	3	15	13
Total		43	35

(8)

(a) The staff roster indicated that a minimum of two adults were in the service at all times.

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) The records of 13 pre-school children were sampled, and 12 children's records were found to contain the particulars (a-i) above.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) While the child's pre-school record contained particulars (a-h) the following particular was missing:

- (i) Written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment in the event of an emergency.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1)

- (i) Written consent for appropriate medical treatment in the event of an emergency was completed by the parent. Staff have been reminded to double check that all the necessary particulars on the forms have been completed.

Supporting documentation submitted

- (1)
- (i) A copy of the written consent for appropriate medical treatment in the event of an emergency was received in the office of the inspectorate.

Summary Comment

The requirement for this Regulation has been met.

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:

- Children had access to appropriate crockery and cutlery at dinner time. Younger children in the Creche/Wobbler room had the opportunity to feed themselves appropriate to their age and stage of development, staff were on hand to offer encouragement and support.
- Children in the Pre-school care room who were still hungry after their dinner were given more food.
- The inspector observed nappy changing being carried out regularly in the Creche/Wobbler room. In addition, staff stated that regular nappy changes occur at 11:00 am, 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm and as required. During these times staff spoke to the children using it as an opportunity for one-to-one interactions.
- Pre-school Activity and Pre-school care room children were observed accessing the sanitary areas independently, staff were available nearby to help.
- Sleep was child led and the inspector observed children sleeping throughout the morning and after dinner.
- The weather on the day of inspection was warm. Staff were heard exchanging information regarding helping children in the Creche/Wobbler room get ready to go outdoors. The children were assisted to put on their shoes and sunhats, dressing appropriately for the hot weather.

- Children from the Pre-school Activity care room were supported to find positive solutions when they experienced challenge in sharing equipment and waiting their turn in the outdoor play area.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S RELATIONSHIPS:

- A key person approach was in operation and staff stated that each staff member was responsible for building a relationship with each key child and their parent/guardian.
- Staff in each care room sat with the children during mealtimes and engaged in social conversation, the atmosphere was noted to be relaxed and happy.
- A staff member in the Pre-school care room was caring and considerate in their interactions with a child who was upset. The staff member spoke gently to the child asking questions and established they had hurt their arm, the staff member organised to phone the child's parent and an ice pack was applied until the parent/guardian arrived.
- Communication with parents/guardians was stated as being mainly face to face at drop off and collection, phone calls or emails where information is exchanged. An information sheet "All about me" completed by staff, on a daily basis, is sent home for parents of children in the Creche/Wobbler and Toddler care rooms. This information informs parents/guardians of their child's eating, sleeping, toileting and activities that have happened on the day.
- Staff stated that monthly meetings take place with management where items discussed include, training, resources and any issues staff may have.

PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT:

- The Toddler, Pre-school Activity and Pre-school care rooms were observed to be laid out in clearly defined areas which provided opportunities to enhance the learning needs of the children across all developmental areas. Some of the play materials and resources were arranged in baskets on low-level shelving which was easily accessible and offered choice and independence.
- The walls were colourfully decorated with artwork. The children in the Toddler room had painted rainbows and added cotton wool balls, fairy colouring in pictures and handprints. Children's birthday details were visible with the month and each child's name. Photographs of each child with their families was also displayed on walls in each of the care rooms.
- A range of books were available in each care room which supported the children's language and development.

- The compact secure outdoor play area offered a range of opportunities to practice gross motor skills while providing safe challenge and risk. Examples included a large climbing frame with a slide which the children were observed climbing up and sliding down. Other play resources included cars and tricycles encouraging cycling and sand with buckets and spades for sensory play.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES:

- Ongoing observations and developmental checklists were recorded which helped create a holistic picture of each child. These were available on the day of inspection for the inspector to view.
- Staff in the Pre-school care room stated they use the observations of the children which were linked to Aistear the curriculum framework to inform planning.
- The theme for the week was summer and holidays. The children in the Pre-school and Pre-school activity care rooms were observed serving ice-cream with sprinkles in a cone to the children as part of the theme. The following day the plan was to take some of the children to the farm as an end of term outing, the children were very excited and were heard speaking about it at different times throughout the day.
- Children's language development was encouraged and supported through a range of strategies including songs and storytelling. The children in the Pre-school room were heard being read two stories "I want my potty" and "The Pirate Picnic", while children in the Pre-school activity care room were heard singing a variety of songs including "Days of the week" and "What's the weather".

Non-Compliance Information

BASIC NEEDS:

- Children in the Creche/Wobbler room did not have free access to water throughout the day as their cups and bottles were stored up high on a shelf at adult height. It was observed that the children were given drinks at mealtimes.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- A water station has been added to the Creche/Wobbler room. Children can freely access water from their beakers.

Supporting documentation submitted

- A photograph of the water station in the Creche/Wobbler room with the beakers, at child level, was received in the office of the inspectorate.

Summary Comment

The requirement for this Regulation has been met.

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.

Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) Children in the Toddler, Pre-school Activity and Pre-school care rooms had access to clearly defined areas which provided opportunities to enhance their learning needs across all areas of development. The outdoor play area, which was accessible from the Toddler care room, was observed in use throughout the day by the different age groups at various times. The equipment in this area included a large wooden climbing frame, slide, cars, caterpillar tunnel, rockers and balls these provided opportunities for the children to practice their gross motor skills of riding, climbing, crawling and running. A covered sand area was available with buckets, spades and sand for sensory play.
 - (b) The Toddler, Pre-school Activity and Pre-school care rooms each had a rest/quiet area where children could sit away from the active, busy and noisy areas. Soft furnishings in these areas included an adult sofa and children’s vinyl mats. Wooden bookcases were located in each room in the rest/quiet areas with books. There were four cots available in the Creche/Wobbler sleep room, these are shared, and each child has their own mattress, sheet and bedding which is kept in a separate labelled bag. Staff stated that the cots are disinfected between use. Stackable beds were also available for children who required a rest or sleep in the afternoon.

Non-Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) Children in the Creche/Wobbler care room could not access the book area or toys independently. The care room was divided by a wooden fence which was operated with a small sliding bolt, this prevented the children accessing the area where the toys and equipment were kept. In conversation staff stated that the children are accompanied to choose toys and then brought back, however this was not observed on the day. The book rack was attached to the wall at adult height making it only accessible by the adults.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (1)
- (a) The area in the Creche/Wobbler care room has been cleared and children can now access the equipment and toys. New equipment including a floor book box has been purchased. An application to Better Start was made to inform best use of the Creche/Wobbler room.

Supporting documentation submitted

- (1)
- (a) A photograph of the gate removed from the Creche/Wobbler room enabling the children to have access to the toys and equipment. A receipt and photograph of the floor book box was received in the office of the inspectorate along with a photograph of the cleared area.

Summary Comment

The requirement for this Regulation has been met.

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 promoted healthy eating, food and snacks made by the kitchen staff along with food sent in by parents and guardians was provided at regular intervals throughout the day. Breakfast including cereals was available from 8:00 am and morning snack of brown bread and butter was served at 10:00 am. A hot lunch of chicken stew with carrots and potatoes was observed being served at 12 noon and the afternoon snack of pasta salad, ham, sweetcorn, cheese and fruit was served at 3:00 pm. Children in the Toddler, Pre-school Activity and Pre-school care rooms had access to water throughout the day.

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 front entrance of the service was secured by an audio entrance system which was answered by a staff member ensuring that unauthorised adults cannot gain entry. Exiting the service is achieved by pressing the release switch inside the door which is inaccessible to the children preventing children leaving unsupervised.
- The Creche/Wobbler sleep room was secured by a number keypad, preventing unauthorised entry.
- Windows were fitted with restrictors preventing children from exiting or falling from them.
- Blind cords in the Creche/Wobbler room were secured and out of reach of the children.
- Feeding chairs were fitted with safety harnesses which were in good condition.
- Handrails were fitted on the stairs enabling children to walk safely and independently.
- The staircase was lit from both natural and artificial light.
- Heavy equipment and furniture were anchored to prevent them from falling or tipping.
- The outdoor bins were secured behind locked gates in the outdoor play area and were inaccessible to the children.
- The kitchen door was closed and not accessible to the children.
- The outdoor play area was secured with a high concrete block wall and two metal bolted gates preventing unauthorised access.

Infection Control:

- Perishable food including children's bottles were stored in a fridge to prevent spoilage.
- Windows in the care rooms were opened providing ventilation from the fresh air.
- Staff members changed disposable gloves and aprons between each nappy change.
- The changing unit was disinfected after use in the Creche/Wobbler room.
- Staff members in all care rooms were noted disinfecting the tables before and after food and sweeping the floors.
- Cleaning rotas were completed and up to date.
- A staff member in the Toddler care room wore gloves while assisting a child wipe their nose and washed their hands after disposing of the tissue and gloves.

- Children in the Toddler and Pre-school care rooms had access to thermostatically controlled hot water ranging from 29.1°C to 43°C, dispensing soap and paper towels when washing their hands.

Administration of Medication:

- There were three bottles of anti-febrile medication available. All of the bottles were in date, clearly labelled and stored in the kitchen on a high shelf out of reach of the children.
- An individual medical plan was available for a child with a chronic illness, staff stated they were trained to administer the medication and written consent from the parents was available.

Safe Sleep:

- The inspector observed the physical ten-minute sleep checks being carried out and documented by staff on children from the Creche/Wobbler care room who were sleeping in cots and beds. These checks included the colour, breathing and position of each child.
- Cellular blankets were in use for children under two years of age.
- The sleep room temperature was recorded at 20°C and a fan was in place.

Fire Safety:

- The fire doors in the Pre-school care room were unobstructed and fitted with thumb twist cylinders.

Outing:

- Some of the children in the service were due to go on an outing to the farm the day after inspection. Staff had individual written consent forms signed for each child, a risk assessment had been completed and the outings policy contained all of the particulars required to ensure the children had a safe trip and insurance was in place.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

- (1) A child was observed with grapes which were not cut in half, posing a safety risk. It was acknowledged that when this was mentioned to the staff member that the grapes were immediately removed, cut and then returned to the child.
- (2) An electrical cable, which extended from a plug on the wall to a four-way extension which was in full use, was accessible in the Creche/Wobbler sleep room, posing a safety risk.
- (3) There were accessible phones cables from a phone situated on top of a two-drawer filing cabinet in the Creche/Wobbler care room. The room was in use as a sleep room after lunch, the phone cables posed a safety risk as the stackable beds were located at the same level as the cables.

Infection Control:

- (4) The five stackable beds in use in the Creche/Wobbler room after lunch (in the wooden fenced area) were not spaced 50 cm apart, posing a risk of cross infection as there was very little room. The area was cluttered with stackable wooden chairs, vinyl shapes, bouncing seats and snug floor seats along with toys and equipment next to the beds.
- (5) The nappy bins in use in the Creche/Wobbler and Toddler care rooms were not pedal operated, posing a risk of cross infection from the number of times the bins were handled by adults. This was noted as a non-compliance in the last inspection on 2 November 2022. The manager had stated in the corrective and preventive actions response that new nappy bins were being sourced and would replace the existing ones, this was not found on inspection.
- (6) Handwashing after nappy changing in the Creche/Wobbler room was not observed. The adult changing the child's nappy did not wash their hands before or after nappy changing or the child's, posing a risk of cross infection. This was in contradiction to the service's nappy changing procedure which stated that "Staff should wash hands before and after each nappy change", this was not observed in practice.
- (7) There was no provision made for the sterilising of children's soothers in the Creche/Wobbler care room throughout the day. In conversation the staff member stated that soothers are sterilised at the end of the day, posing a safety risk from contamination and infection from being left out after use.
- (8) Pedal bins were noted to be broken in the Creche/Wobbler room, Pre-school Activity Room, and the Pre-school care rooms, posing a risk of cross infection for children and adults due to the number of hands handling the lids when disposing of rubbish and tissues.
- (9) There were two potties located on the floor of the Toddler care room sanitary area, posing a tripping hazard and a safety risk. Potties should be stored hygienically out of reach of children when not in use.
- (10) A blue vinyl mat with exposed corners was visible in rest area of the Pre-school Activity care room, posing an infection risk as it would be difficult to clean effectively.
- (11) There was no hot water in the mixer tap of the sink in the Pre-school Activity sanitary area, impeding effective handwashing and posing a risk of cross infection.

Fire Safety:

- (12) An Immediate Action Notice was issued on 7 June 2023 in relation to the obstruction of two fire doors, one of which was located in the Creche/Wobbler care room, and the other in the Toddler care room. The Creche/Wobbler fire door was obstructed by a wooden bolted gate and the Toddler care room was obstructed by a metal gate, hindering the quick evacuation of staff and children in the event of an

emergency. These non-compliances were identified in the last inspection on 2 November 2022. The manager had stated in the corrective and preventive actions response that new locks were ordered which would replace the gates. While there were safety catches on the fire doors the gates were still in place.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider-

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

- (1) Staff have been reminded to check lunch boxes to ensure grapes are cut in half and food is safely prepared. A letter reminding parents to cut the grapes into small pieces was sent to all parents.
- (2) The electrical cable has been secured.
- (3) The phone cables were secured behind the filing cabinet. All wires have been included in the room safety check.

Infection Control:

- (4) The floor space has been cleared and staff have been reminded that beds should be placed at least 50 cm apart.
- (5) Nappy bins which are pedal operated have been ordered for the Creche/Wobbler and Toddler care rooms.
- (6) Staff have been reminded of the importance of hygienic hand washing after each nappy change. The nappy changing procedure is visible in each changing area. Staff will be reminded at meetings of the nappy changing procedure.
- (7) Staff now have a lidded container with sterilising solution for soothers. A steriliser unit has been ordered for the Creche/Wobbler room.
- (8) The registered provider is seeking tenders for the six bins which need replacing in the Creche/Wobbler, Pre-school Activity and Pre-school care rooms.
- (9) The potties in the Toddler care room floor have been removed from the floor and are stored on a shelf when not in use.
- (10) A new mat was ordered for the Pre-school Activity care room.
- (11) We have arranged for a plumber to review the system.

Fire Safety:

- (12) The gates causing the obstruction have been removed from the fire doors of the Creche/Wobbler and Toddler care rooms.

Supporting documentation submitted

The following statements, photographic and documentary evidence were received in the office of the inspectorate.

General Safety:

- (1) A copy of the letter sent out to the parents reminding them to cut grapes into small pieces was received in the office of the inspectorate. The statement from the manager that staff have been reminded of the importance of checking the contents of lunch boxes to ensure food has been safely prepared has been accepted.
- (2) A photograph showing the secured wire in the sleep room.
- (3) Photographs of the phone cables placed out of reach of the children.

Infection Control:

- (4) Photographs of the clear floor space available in the Creche/Wobbler care room.
- (5) A copy of the receipt for the pedal operated nappy bins.
- (6) The statement from the manager that staff have been reminded of the importance of hygienic hand washing after nappy changing has been accepted.
- (7) A photograph of the sterilising unit for the soothers.
- (8) A photograph of the proposed bins. The statement from the manager that a tender is being sought by the Registered provider
- (9) A photograph of the potty stored on the shelf was received.
- (10) A copy of a receipt for the mat was received.
- (11) The service has arranged for a plumber to review the hot water system.

Fire Safety:

- (12) Photographs of the gates removed from the fire doors in the Creche/Wobbler and the Toddler care rooms were received on the 8 June as evidence in the response to the Immediate Action Notice sent on the 7 June 2023.

Summary Comment

The requirements for this Regulation have been met.

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

(2)

(a) (b) The first aid boxes were visible, stored on shelving easily accessible by the adults, in each care room and available at all times.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) The roster evidenced that there were no adults with first aid responder training (FAR) in the service between the hours of 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm. In conversation the manager confirmed this information and indicated that a staff member trained as a first aid responder would be available going forward. It was acknowledged that one of the adults rostered on between the hours of 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm had paediatric first aid training completed.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1) Management will ensure that a staff member who has First Aid Responder (FAR) is available at all times. It is the intention of management to ensure that all staff are FAR trained.

Supporting documentation submitted

(1) A copy of the staff roster was received in the office of the inspectorate to evidence that there are two staff available at all times who have received FAR training.

Summary Comment

The requirement for this Regulation has been met.

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) A written record was available of the regular fire drills that took place in the service. The last drill was recorded as taking place on 28 April 2023 with previous drills noted as 24 March and 20 February 2023.
 - (b) A written record was available detailing the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms. The maintenance certificate for the firefighting equipment was dated 22 March 2023 and the smoke alarm certificate was date 2 May 2023.
- (4) The procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were located in the hallway downstairs.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Compliance Information

(d) Staff in all care rooms were noted cleaning throughout the day.

Non-Compliance Information

- (d)
- (1) Four mirrored tiles were missing on the wall of the Creche/Wobbler care room wall.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (d)
- (1) The tiles have been removed and replaced with a wipe board at the children's level.

Supporting documentation submitted

- (d)
- (1) A photograph of the wipe board was received in the office of the inspectorate.

Summary Comment

The requirement for this Regulation had been met.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Compliance Information

A written record was available with the insurance details of the service. The insurance expiry date was recorded as 27 May 2024, the number of children and the type of service covered was noted as 53 full day care children.