

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015LH001
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Absolute Angels Crèche
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Termonfeckin Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth
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<b>Eircode:</b>	A92 A002
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Laura Jackson
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<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Dates of Inspection:</b>	06/05/2025
	07/05/2025

<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>AM</b>	81	<b>PM</b>	50
	<b>Day 2</b>		85		

<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Meath Child & Parent Support Hub, Commons Road, Navan, Co. Meath C15 CP23
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	S Taaffe and S McKenna
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspectors

### 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.
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### Description of service

Absolute Angels Crèche is registered to accommodate pre-school children aged 1 to 6 years on a sessional, part-time and full day care basis, currently operating from 7.30am to 5.30pm each weekday. The service is also registered to accommodate school aged children, catering for children up to 12 years of age. The service is conducted from two interconnecting 2-storey buildings with 10 care rooms provided on the premises and a range of outdoor play areas to the front, side and rear of the premises which is located in a mainly residential area in Drogheda. Pre-school children are accommodated on the ground floor in the Rainbow room, the Twinkle room, the Sunshine room, the Moonlight room, the Shooting Star room, the Blue Sky room, all of which were in operation on the day of the inspection. On the first floor, both the Robin room and the Snowflake room are used to accommodate pre-school children, whilst school aged children are accommodated in the Starlight room. The Butterfly room on the first floor is currently designated for use as a sleep room only, for children aged 2 years and older. Additionally, an outdoor sessional pre-school service (the Muck Angels) is operated each morning in the enclosed garden to the rear of the premises, with any children who remain in attendance for part-time or full day care after the ECCE session has ended at 12.15pm being accommodated in the indoor care rooms for the rest of the day.

Ancillary accommodation includes sanitary facilities on both floors whilst an office is located off the reception area on the ground floor, in addition to a cot room, kitchen, laundry/sluice room, bed storeroom and staff room. A second spacious office and a separate preparation room for staff members to use when completing documentation are located on the first floor.

### Staffing

The registered provider employs 25 staff members comprising of a manager, deputy manager and a further 21 staff members who all work directly with the pre-school children, in addition to a chef and an office administrator. The registered provider was not present in the service during the inspection and does not work directly with the children attending the service. On the first day of inspection a contractor was present in the service providing an interactive music and movement class for children in attendance.

### 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 on the first day of inspection and announced on the second day of inspection and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9, 11, 19, 23, 25, 26 and 28; however, on inspection additional non-compliances which posed a risk was identified under Regulation 29. These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations within this report.

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 inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge, staff and children who were present on the days 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,

(2) A registered provider shall ensure that each employee, unpaid worker and contractor is suitable and competent taking into consideration the nature of the needs of children, including by-

- (a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,
- (b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,
- (c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and
- (d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.

(4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major award in Early childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

### Compliance Information

(1)(a) The service manager was the designated person in charge of the service. The deputy manager was appointed as person in charge when the service manager was absent.

(b) The service manager was present and in charge of the service when the inspectors arrived unannounced at 9.25am on the first day of inspection and when they arrived announced at 9.10am on the second day of inspection.

A total of 26 staff files were reviewed, maintained in respect of the registered provider and all 25 staff members employed in the service. Additionally, the vetting records maintained for the music contractor who was present on the first day of inspection were also reviewed.

(2)(a)(b) In respect of the 27 files reviewed, the following references were available:

- Twenty-five adults had 2 written, validated references.
- One adult had 1 written, validated reference.

(a) Of the 51 written references available, 37 were from a previous employer.

(b) Of the 51 written references available, 14 were from a source other than a previous employer.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for the registered provider, for all 25 staff members employed in the service and for the music contractor who was present on the first day of inspection. However, the vetting disclosures for 3 staff members were not dated within the previous three years in adherence with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice 'EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'. Please refer to the information outlined under regulation 23 of this report.

(d) International police vetting was available as required for the 5 staff members who had resided outside of the Irish jurisdiction for more than 6 consecutive months as adults.

(4) All 23 staff members who work directly with the pre-school children in the service held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 - 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

### Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a)(b) The following was not in place in relation to staff references:

- There were no written references available in respect of 1 staff member.
- A second written reference was not available in respect of 1 staff member.

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

The registered provider stated the following corrective actions and preventive actions have been undertaken:

#### Corrective Action

(2)(a)(b)

- The misplaced 2 validated references for the office administrator have been located.
- The second reference for a staff member was misplaced and a new one has been received from a reputable source.

### Preventive Action

(2)(a)(b)

- Management will regularly check staff files to ensure all paperwork is correct

### Supporting documentation submitted

- Copies of 3 written, validated references for the 2 relevant staff members.

### Summary Comment

The inspectors reviewed the corrective and preventive actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider after the inspection. The registered provider demonstrated that the non-compliance identified under Regulation 9(2)(a)(b) has been adequately addressed.

## 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) On both days of inspection there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the service.

(2) The adult to child ratios were correct in the service on both days of inspection.

The following adult to child ratios were observed when the highest numbers of children were in attendance in each care room on the first day of the inspection:

- In the Rainbow room there were 9 children (of whom 6 children were aged 1 year 6 months to 1 year 11 months and 3 children who were aged 2 years 1 month to 2 years 3 months) being cared for by 2 staff members.
- In the Twinkle room there were 6 children aged 2 years 5 months to 2 years 11 months being cared for by 1 staff member.
- In the Sunshine room there were 8 children aged 3 years 2 months to 4 years 7 months being cared for by 2 staff members, one of whom was employed to reduce the adult to child ratio, and when necessary to work directly with children with additional needs, in a post which was part-funded by the Minister as part of the Access and Inclusion Model scheme.
- In the Moonlight room there were 6 children aged 2 years 6 months to 3 years 2 months being cared for by 1 staff member.
- In the Shooting Stars room there were 6 children aged 4 years 4 months to 5 years 1 month being cared for by 2 staff members.
- In the Blue Sky room there were 9 children aged 3 years 1 month to 4 years 7 months being cared for by 2 staff members, one of whom was employed to reduce the adult to child ratio, and when necessary to work directly with a child with additional needs, in a post which was part-funded by the Minister as part of the Access and Inclusion Model scheme.
- In the Robin room there were 8 children aged 3 years to 5 years 2 months being cared for by 2 staff members, one of whom was employed to reduce the adult to child ratio, and when necessary to work directly with a child with additional needs, in a post which was part-funded by the Minister as part of the Access and Inclusion Model scheme.
- In the Snowflake room there were 8 children aged 3 years 8 months to 5 years being cared for by 2 staff members.
- In the Muck Angels outdoor pre-school there were 21 children aged 3 years 4 months to 5 years 2 months being cared for by 4 staff members, 2 of whom were employed to reduce the adult to child ratio, and when necessary to work directly with children with additional needs, in posts which were part-funded by the Minister as part of the Access and Inclusion Model scheme.
- The Butterfly room was operated as a sleep room on both days of inspection.

- School aged children were accommodated in the Starlight room during the afternoon on both days of inspection.

Throughout the inspection the service manager and deputy manager provided support and assistance in the care rooms when required.

(8)(a) The registered provider ensured that 2 adults were present on the premises at all times, as evidenced in staff rosters and staff attendance records maintained in 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, and

#### Compliance Information

(1)(a) The following examples demonstrate how each child's learning, development and well-being was facilitated in the service:

#### Basic needs:

- Meals and snacks were prepared on-site in the service kitchen and served to the children at regular intervals throughout the day. Mealtimes were observed to be a pleasant unhurried experience with children given plenty of time to enjoy their meals. Throughout the care rooms and in the outdoor pre-school setting staff members were observed sitting with the children and warmly engaging them in conversation during mealtimes. The staff members in the Rainbow room and the Twinkle room were observed sitting at the younger children's eye level, smiling and chatting with the children when feeding, providing assistance or gently encouraging the children to eat. Cereal and toast was available for breakfast with diced fruit including apples, oranges, pears and blueberries served with rice cakes or yogurt for morning snack on both days of inspection. Pasta with minced meat-based Bolognese was served for dinner on the first day of inspection while chicken goujons, mashed potato and mixed vegetables were served for dinner on the second day of inspection. Buttered wheaten bread and jam along with yogurts

was served for tea on the first day of inspection. Extra portions were provided to the children who requested more. Drinking water was available and accessible to the children in the care rooms throughout the day.

- Nappy changing took place at regular scheduled times during the day and more frequently as required. The staff members engaged positively with the children throughout the process and were observed singing songs and chatting with the children. The children who were toilet trained were facilitated to use the toilet independently with assistance and encouragement provided as necessary including gentle reminders from the staff to the children regarding hand washing.
- The children attending the Rainbow room were placed to sleep when they showed signs of tiredness during the day while the children in the Twinkle room and any child in the other care rooms who still availed of a day-time nap were facilitated to sleep at the service's designated sleep time after dinner. During the inspection some children were observed to spontaneously sit and rest on the soft matting, couches and cushions provided in the care rooms.
- On both days of inspection, the staff members were observed to approach children's behaviour in a positive and supportive manner, calmly distracting or re-directing the children and using problem-solving techniques to good effect before any minor issues escalated.
- The children engaged in outdoor play, dressed appropriately for the warm weather conditions that prevailed on the days of the inspection. Children who reported feeling too warm were encouraged and assisted to remove outer layers of clothing when required. Staff members were observed encouraging the children to take regular drinks during the day, including when outdoors.

### Supporting relationships:

- There was a welcoming atmosphere in the service and staff members greeted children and parents warmly on arrival, spending time conversing and sharing information in a friendly way. A mobile app was used to communicate children's routines, care needs and activities to parents and guardians. In discussion with the inspectors staff members described how they use this app to keep parents updated including in relation to learning themes and the children's play experiences. It was also evident through conversations with the staff members and on reviewing care plans that staff members collaborated with parents when they identified children who may need additional resources in the service and when implementing support plans.

- Throughout the inspection the staff members were observed to be kind and caring in their interactions with the children and demonstrated sensitivity and responsiveness to each child's individual needs, likes and preferences. The children were observed to be familiar and comfortable with the staff, the daily routine and within their environments. Children in each care room and in the outdoor pre-school environment were observed calling staff by name and engaging with the staff members in a relaxed manner.
- The children were supported in their choice of activities with moments of joint laughter and shows of affection observed taking place between the staff members and the children during the inspection. The staff members were observed acting as play partners with the children, both individually and in small groups, providing space and opportunity for children to lead and direct play while readily supporting children when they chose to change or opt out of activities.
- The staff members were observed to work well together and supported each other in the care of the children. Staff members updated each other on the children's care throughout the day, including when going to and returning from break, which ensured the children's care needs were met in a timely manner.

### Physical and material environment

- All pre-school children throughout the service were provided with low level chairs and tables appropriate to their size and stage of development, to eat their meals from or to play at when engaging in tabletop activities.
- The play materials and equipment were displayed and readily accessible on low level shelving in each care room and in the outdoor pre-school setting in order to promote the children's choice and independence. The children in the service demonstrated familiarity with their environments to access the toys and play resources they chose to play with.
- Each care room and the Muck Angels outdoor pre-school environment contained play materials and equipment suitable for the age and stage of the children accommodated in each area. For example, climbing wedges and push-along wheeled toys were provided in the Rainbow room to support the children's physical play and enhance gross motor development for the youngest children in the service. The play and learning environment within each of the care rooms contained a range of play resources which were arranged to create a number of well-defined areas of interest which supported a variety of play experiences. Home areas with kitchens and a broad range of real-life packaging, shop areas, baby care items, musical instruments, dress up resources and construction areas supported the children's

sensory and imaginary play. The provision of jigsaws, shape sorters, interconnecting toys, stacking equipment and a wide variety of blocks enhanced the children’s cognitive and fine motor development with sensory play encouraged through the availability of playdough, pebble trays and dried foods including lentil trays in the care rooms.

- A wide selection of books was provided in the care rooms which the children’s language development was enhanced through conversation, storytelling and singing.
- There were 5 separate outdoor play areas provided in the service. There were two enclosed play areas to the front of the service, one of which was predominantly surfaced with impact-absorbent matting, and which contained a large wooden climbing frame with 2 slides and 2 swings attached, a well-resourced lidded sand table and ride-on toys. The second enclosed play area to the front of the premises was surfaced with sections of natural grass and with bark and contained play equipment including two wooden climbing frames, slides, an outdoor kitchen and an open-sided covered structure which provided shelter. A separate enclosed outdoor space located to the rear of the building which was surfaced with impact-absorbent matting was mainly used by the children attending the Twinkle Room, the Rainbow Room and the Moonlight Room and contained a swing set with two swing seats with T-bars and harnesses, a sand table, push along toys, self-propel cars, rocking toys, and large plastic inter-connecting blocks. A further separate hard-surfaced area to the rear of the premises with an enclosed pond at the centre contained a broad range of ride on toys, scooters, a water table with play resources, a plastic playhouse and play kitchen, balls, basketball nets and hula hoops.

The spacious and well-resourced outdoor play area used by the Muck Angels was located to the rear of the service. The area was divided into a selection of interest areas including a well-resourced mud kitchen with a wide variety of additional play equipment including several microwaves, a toaster, saucepans, an array of cooking utensils and a Hoover. The construction area had gravel and play shovels available for the children to dig with, wheelbarrows, traffic cones, small dumper trucks, tyres and wooden planks. A wooden shed was set up as an indoor sand area in addition to an outdoor sunken sand pit. The children were provided with the opportunity to plant and grow vegetables in raised plant beds. The outdoor preschool area contained a large number of mature trees, hedging and plants, and the children were observed playing hide and seek including in a well-established willow tunnel. Throughout the area play equipment including swings, slides, climbing tunnels, saws, balance boards and individual rockers constructed of tyres and wood were accessible for the children to play with along with wooden tepees. A covered open-sided area furnished with seating and benches was provided for mealtimes and a wooden

cabin was provided for shelter and indoor activities if required depending on weather conditions. A sanitary accommodation block consisting of 3 separate toilets and wash hand basins was constructed adjacent to the cabin.

All children in the service engaged in outdoor play on the day of inspection.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 23 - Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

*A registered provider shall ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of a pre-school child attending the service and that the environment of the service is safe.*

#### Compliance Information

The following are examples of the measures undertaken by the staff members to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of the pre-school children attending the service:

#### General Safety:

- The entrance doors leading into the premises were appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises. Glass panels at the entrance doors allowed staff members to see parents and visitors on their arrival to the service and facilitate their entry if appropriate.
- The outdoor play areas were enclosed by fencing and hedging to prevent unauthorised persons from gaining entry or a child from gaining unsupervised access to a roadway or other source of danger.
- The warm water temperature in the sanitary accommodation did not exceed the recommended maximum water temperature of 43°C and the inspectors were informed that the warm water supply in the service was thermostatically controlled. This reduced the risk of injury from scalding for the children in attendance.
- Cleaning agents were stored safely and out of children's reach.
- The kitchen was inaccessible to the children during the inspection which reduced the risk of children gaining access to items that would pose a risk to their safety, including the oven, kettle, cutlery and sharp utensils.
- The fishpond located in the hard-surfaced outdoor play area to the rear of the premises was enclosed in sections of sturdy steel fencing and a wall. A detailed documented risk assessment was available in the service outlining the control measures in place to prevent a child from gaining access to the pond. These

included supervision of children at all times when the children were present in this outdoor area and ensuring the children do not climb up onto the wall surrounding the pond. The inspectors were informed that the service plans to fit safety netting across the top of the pond to further enhance the safety measures in place.

### Infection Control:

- The premises, play equipment and materials were in a clean and hygienic condition and documented cleaning schedules were on display in the service.
- Soothers were individually labelled and stored in personalised containers when not in use. In discussion with the inspectors staff members demonstrated good knowledge and safe practice in relation to the preparation and use of the sterilising solution provided in the service. This included the correct dilution when preparing the solution daily and the requirement to wash soothers and mouthed toys in warm soapy water in advance of sterilisation.
- The children were facilitated to wash their hands before eating, after nappy changing, and following outdoor and messy play. Children who were toilet trained were gently reminded, and assisted, when necessary, to wash their hands after using the toilet. Liquid soap and paper hand towels available for hand hygiene at the wash hand basins in the service.
- The service's nappy changing policy was observed to be implemented when staff members changed children's nappies during the inspection. Pedal operated lidded nappy bins were provided for the disposal of nappies. This reduced odour emissions and the risk of cross-infection.
- The outdoor sand pits were fitted with secure lids to prevent contamination by animals and birds.

### Administration of Medication:

- Medications were stored out of the reach of children. No children were observed having medication administered on the day of inspection.
- Staff members demonstrated awareness of the service's medication administration policy and described appropriate procedures to ensure safe practice in the event that a child required medication to be administered during their attendance in the service, including the management of allergies.

### Safe Sleep:

- The inspectors observed that 10-minute sleep check observations noting each child's colour, position and breathing pattern were being performed and documented on all sleeping children during the inspection.

- Staff members reported and documentation in the service demonstrated that the temperature in the sleep rooms was monitored and recorded when children were sleeping and was maintained between 18-20°C.
- Adequate space of at least 50cm was maintained between the cots in the sleep rooms and between the stackable beds set up in the Twinkle room, the Moonlight room and also in the Butterfly room on the first floor.

### Fire Safety:

- The designated emergency exit doors were clear and unobstructed. This included the emergency exit door leading directly out from the Butterfly room onto the external fire escape, in the room where children were facilitated to sleep on the first floor.

### Outings:

- The inspectors were informed that children were not taken on outings from the service.

### Non-Compliance Information

#### General Safety:

1. In respect of 3 staff members, the service did not demonstrate compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years, as a period in excess of 3 years had lapsed since their Garda vetting disclosures were issued.

#### Safe Sleep:

2. The children who slept on floor beds in the Moonlight room and also in the Butterfly room were not supervised by a staff member at all times. Instead, a staff member entered these rooms every 10 minutes to check the sleeping children. This posed a risk that children who woke could leave their beds unsupervised and climb, trip, fall or make physical contact with another child.

#### Infection Control:

3. During the inspection food including diced fruit, buttered bread with jam and rice cakes were served to the children directly on to the tabletops rather than on plates in the Rainbow room and the Snowflake room which was an unhygienic practice.

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

The registered provider stated the following corrective actions and preventive actions have been undertaken:

#### Corrective Actions

1. The 3 staff members have renewed their Garda vetting
2. Management were made aware on the day of the inspection that while children over 2 years of age are sleeping on stackable beds they need to be supervised at all times with a staff staying in the room during sleeps. Staff are now allocated to each sleep room while the children are sleeping.
3. Snack and tea are now served on individual plates/bowls and kitchen staff and teachers have been reminded of this.

#### Preventive Actions

1. Management will regularly review the garda vetting and renewal dates.
2. Staff are now allocated to each sleep room while the children are sleeping.
3. Management will monitor this situation.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

- Copies of up-dated Garda vetting for all relevant staff members.

### Summary Comment

The inspectors reviewed the corrective and preventive actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider after the inspection. The registered provider demonstrated that the non-compliances identified under Regulation 23 have been adequately addressed.

## 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) A person who held in-date First Aid Response (FAR) training was at all times immediately available to the children attending the service. This was evidenced in the FAR training records maintained for 3 staff members and their scheduled attendance in the service's staff roster.

(2)(a)(b) The first aid boxes available in the service were suitably equipped and stored in conspicuous locations on each floor on the premises and these were available for the children in attendance, in the event of an emergency.

### 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 record was maintained of the fire drills which had been completed in the service. The records indicated and staff members reported that fire drills were carried out monthly. The last recorded fire drill took place on 15/04/2025.

(b) A record was kept of the number, type and maintenance of the fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises, both of which were certified as having been most recently serviced in May 2024.

(4) The evacuation procedure was conspicuously displayed throughout the service which contained details in relation to the procedures to be conducted in the event of a fire or emergency in the premises.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

#### Compliance Information

The registered provider had insurance cover in place for 110 children. The attendance records demonstrated, and the service manager confirmed that no more than 109 children are present in the service at any one time. The insurance policy showed that the service was insured until 28/02/2026.

### Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

#### Regulation 29 - Premises

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

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

#### Compliance Information

(b) The service was secure with the entrance doors and garden gates kept closed and latched at all times when not in use during the inspection to ensure that the children could not exit the service unsupervised or that unauthorised adults could not gain access to the premises.

#### Non-Compliance Information

- (d) A section of the wooden flooring in front of the sink in the Shooting Stars room was raised and uneven and posed a trip hazard for an adult or child.
- (e) The water supply from the hot taps at the wash hand basins in the sanitary accommodation adjoining the Rainbow room on the ground floor and in the sanitary accommodation across from the Snowflake room on the first floor was not adequate as there was only a trickle of water available which was insufficient to support effective hand hygiene procedures.

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

The registered provider stated the following corrective actions and preventive actions have been undertaken:

## **Corrective Actions**

(d) The floor in the Shooting Star room has been replaced.

(e) Plumbing works have been carried out to improve water pressure in the sanitary accommodation adjoining the Rainbow room and the sanitary accommodation across from the Snowflake room.

## **Preventive Actions**

(d) Management will monitor all floors and replace immediately if damaged.

(e) Management will monitor water pressure regularly.

## **Supporting documentation submitted**

- An invoice for the removal of old flooring and replacement with new flooring in the service.
- An invoice for the adjustment of a water valve in the service to improve the water pressure.

## **Summary Comment**

The inspectors reviewed the corrective and preventive actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider after the inspection. The registered provider demonstrated that the non-compliances identified under Regulation 29(d) and (e) have been adequately addressed.