

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015LH083
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Name of Service:	Scallywags Crèche
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Address of Service:	Boicetown, Togher, Drogheda, Co. Louth
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Eircode:	A92 H5WA
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Name of Registered Provider:	Michael Lynch
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date(s) of Inspection:	08/01/2026
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Day 2 of Inspection:	09/01/2026
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No of pre-school children – Day 1	AM	3	PM	14
Day 2	AM	19	PM	17

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate Child Wellbeing Centre, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan
Inspection undertaken by:	M. Flood & S.Skinnader
Title:	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).

Conditions if applicable	Not Applicable
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Description of service

Sallywags Crèche has been operating as a community-based childcare service since May 2004. The service provides sessional, part-time, and full day care and education to pre-school children aged 4 months to school-going age. The service operates from 08:00 -18:00 each weekday and caters for the care needs of a maximum of 78 pre-school children.

The service is conducted from a single-storey community centre located in a coastal setting in rural Co Louth. The service currently has three care rooms in operation namely: The Wobbler Room, The Toddler Room and The ECCE Room. A 4th room namely The Baby Room is currently used for sleep purposes only. Sanitary facilities, additional storage and a separate kitchen are also provided in the service. An enclosed outdoor play area is located to the side of the premises.

Staffing

There were 12 staff in the service which included the following:

- The registered provider who does not work directly with the preschool children.
- Six childcare staff who work directly with the preschool children and this includes the service supervisor.
- 2 staff members who carry out catering and maintenance duties.
- 1 staff member who was present in a volunteer capacity.

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

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This inspection was unannounced 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.

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

This inspection was carried out following receipt of unsolicited information by the Concerns department. A regulatory compliance meeting was held on 18th March 2026 to further discuss the findings of the inspection, the recurring nature of some of the non-compliances and the actions being taken by the service. Further assurances were given to indicate that management will have greater oversight of the running of the service.

Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, service supervisor, staff and children who were present on the days of the inspection.

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Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

- (a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,*
- (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and*
- (c) there is a clear management structure in the service that identifies the lines of authority and accountability in the service and the specific roles and responsibilities of each employee and unpaid worker.*

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

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

(3) The procedures specified in paragraph (2) shall be carried out prior to any person being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

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

Compliance Information

(1)(a) & (b) The service had a designated person in charge who is also the registered provider and a named deputy person who is the service supervisor, to deputise as required. The deputy person in charge was on the premises when the inspectors arrived unannounced to the premises on Day 1 of the inspection and was present throughout the inspection. The designated person in charge who is also the registered provider arrived on the premises at approximately 09.00am and was present intermittently during the inspection.

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On the 2nd day of inspection, the deputy person in charge was on the premises when the inspectors arrived at the service and the registered provider arrived onto the premises at 11.25am. Both were present in the service for the duration of the inspection.

(c) When questioned the staff were familiar with the management structure within the service. The name of the service supervisor (deputy person in charge) was on display in the hallway beside the staff roster and staff sign in records. During discussion the service supervisor was aware of the contact details for the registered provider if required. This information was also confirmed by the registered provider.

(2) Following a discussion with the registered provider and a review of the staff rosters, 2 new members of staff and 1 staff member who was present in a volunteer capacity have been employed since the last inspection on 15/05/2025.

These 3 staff files were presented for inspection and reviewed:

(a) & (b)

There were 2 written references from a past employer or an alternative source available for the 2 new members of staff and the 1 staff member who was present in a volunteer capacity.

Documentary evidence was available that 2 out of the 6 references were validated.

(c) A processed Garda Vetting Disclosure was available for the 2 new members of staff and 1 volunteer person. Garda vetting disclosures were also reviewed for the registered provider and other 8 staff members who were present in the service. The registered provider adhered to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) International police vetting inclusive of the required official translation was available for the 1 new staff member who had resided outside the Irish jurisdiction for a period of 6 months or more as an adult.

(4) Documentary evidence was available to confirm that the 1 of the 2 new members of staff who was reported to have worked directly with the children held at least the minimum required level 5 childcare qualification on the National Framework of Childcare Qualifications or a qualification deemed equivalent.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a)&(b)

The registered provider did not ensure that appropriate vetting procedures had been completed for all new staff. The following documents were not available and were not in place prior to the new staff members commencing in the service;

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1. Documentary evidence was not available to confirm that 4 out of 6 references had been validated by the registered provider prior to the new staff members commencing in the service.

(3) The registered provider did not ensure that appropriate vetting procedures had been completed for all new staff prior to them commencing in the service.

(4) One staff member who provided relief in the Wobbler care room, on the 2 days prior to the inspection did not have the required minimum Level 5 childcare qualification or a qualification deemed equivalent by the minister. When discussed with the staff present in the service and the registered provider it was confirmed to the inspectors that this member of staff provided relief cover in the care room on the 2 days prior to the inspection between 08.00am and 09.00am.

The non-compliances found in respect of Regulations 9(2)(a)(b) and 9(4) have been recurrent at previous inspections.

Regulation 9(2)(a)(b) was non-compliant at inspection carried out on 15/5/2025 while Regulation 9(4) was found to be non-compliant on 15/5/2025 and on a previous inspection on 1/2/2024.

The corrective and preventive actions previously submitted stated "All references and qualifications for the staff have been received. Going forward prior to a staff start date all the procedures will be carried out".

The actions outlined were insufficient to prevent reoccurrence of the non-compliances.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Actions

The registered provider confirmed that on the day of inspection, a staff member from the creche management and admin office was asked to assist the creche supervisor as a competent adult to ensure 2 staff present, for safety reasons.

A revised staff recruitment policy was submitted which indicated that all vetting documents would be obtained and references would be validated by the assistant manager prior to a staff member commencing in the service and that this would be double checked by administration staff and the registered provider.

The CAPA response stated that unless adequate qualified staff were in place that no children would be permitted to enter the service. The service could not accept children until 9am when sufficient staff were in place.

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At the regulatory compliance meeting, the procedures followed by the service in the event of staff absences were discussed and the requirement to have a staff absence policy to cover such events.

The current staff compliment was review and it was confirmed that the new manager was not allocated to a room and would be able to assist in rooms for breaks and act as a float.

The registered provider advised that staffing issues would be the responsibility of the assistant manager who would then consult with him where difficulties arise.

Supporting documentation submitted

- Confirmation that all references were validated.
- Updated Recruitment policy.

Summary Comment

The registered provider submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliances together with documentary and photographic evidence, these have been accepted and will be reviewed at the next inspection.

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,

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Compliance Information

(2) Day 1 inspection 08/01/2026

The Wobbler Room:

At 8.17am in this care room there were 3 preschool children aged 1 year 9 months – 3 years present with 1 staff member. The adult: child ratios were correct.

A 2nd staff member from the administration building next door arrived at the care room at 8.20am.

The additional 2 rooms, The Toddler Room and ECCE Room opened after 09.00am and the following adult:child ratios were observed at 10.15am:

The Toddler Room:

There were 6 preschool children aged 2 years present with 1 staff member.

The adult: child ratios were correct.

The ECCE Room:

There were 10 preschool children aged 3 - 5 years attending this room with 2 staff members, one who was the service supervisor.

The registered provider who does not work directly with the preschool children arrived on the premises at 09.00am approximately and was present intermittently on the premises during the inspection.

(2) Day 2 inspection 09/01/2026

On day 2 the of inspection when the inspectors arrived unannounced to the service at 11.20am there were 3 rooms in operation:

The Wobbler Room:

There were 3 preschool children aged 1 year 9 months – 3 years present with 1 staff member.

The adult: child ratios were correct.

The Toddler Room:

There were 5 preschool children aged 2 years present with 1 staff member.

The adult: child ratios were correct.

The ECCE Room:

There were 11 preschool children aged 3 - 5 years attending this room with 2 staff members, one who was the service supervisor.

The adult: child ratios were correct.

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The registered provider who does not work directly with the preschool children arrived on the premises at 11.25am approximately and was present intermittently on the premises during the inspection.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) Following a discussion with the staff present and a review of the staff roster, staff attendance records and children's attendance records, there were an inadequate number of staff present in the service from 08.00am – 09.00am on Monday 5th January and Wednesday 7th January 2026.

(2) Following a review of the children's attendance records, staff rosters and the staff sign in/out sheets, the minimum required adult: child ratios were not maintained in the following instances;

For example:

On Monday 5th January 2026, 10 preschool children were documented as being present in the service before 09.00am with one suitably qualified staff member, 2 qualified staff were required.

On Wednesday 7th January 2026, 15 preschool children were documented as being present in the service before 09.00am with one suitably qualified staff member and one unqualified staff member from the administration building next door, 3 qualified staff members were required.

(8)(a)

Day 1 of inspection

When the inspectors arrived at the Wobbler care room at 08.17am there was 1 member of staff present with the 3 preschool children present. The requirement is to have 2 members of staff on the premises at all times. This was also confirmed by the registered provider and the staff present.

When questioned the staff also confirmed that there was only 1 staff member present when the service reopened after holidays on Monday 5th January 2026 3 days prior to the inspection.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The response from the registered provider stated that a staff member from the creche management and admin office was asked to assist the creche supervisor as a competent adult to ensure 2 staff were present, for safety reasons.

For future reference staff have been instructed that in the unlikely event of a re occurrence, not to admit any children until a suitable number of qualified staff are on the premises to adhere to child staff ratios. Management

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and staff have had a meeting about this instance, staff are all aware of the procedures. Each member of staff has read the up dated safety policy.

At the regulatory compliance meeting this was further discussed and the registered provider stated that the assistant manager would ensure adequate staffing was in place and would consult with him if difficulties arise

Supporting documentation submitted

- Recruitment policy
- Safety policy

Summary Comment

The Inspectorate has reviewed the response from the registered provider to prevent re-occurrence of this issue and considers it appropriate. This will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service

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

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

Non-Compliance Information

(i) The staff roster and staff 'sign in' sheet available on the days of the inspection were not reflective of the staff present in the service. For example, on day 1 of the inspection the staff roster did not detail 1 staff member who arrived at the Wobbler room at 08.20am to provide relief cover. In addition, when discussed with the staff present, they confirmed that a 2nd member of staff from the community development office next door provided relief cover on the 2 days prior to the inspection. This person was not documented as being present on the staff rosters or the staff attendance records reviewed for the 2 days prior to the inspection.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The registered provider submitted a response which stated that a clear staffing structure and daily staff roster are in place to ensure that the required staff to child ratios are maintained at all times. Staff break times are recorded on the sign in/ attendance sheet, this ensures appropriate cover is always available. Attendance is monitored throughout the day to ensure adequate staffing levels are maintained. Procedures are in place to manage staff

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absence including relief additional cover where necessary. Late collections are monitored daily to ensure children remain appropriately supervised until departure. Kitchen duties are planned in advance, additional staff are allocated when required so that supervision ratios in the room are not affected.

For future reference, all possible auxiliary staff working in the creche will be included on the sign in sheet in order to adhere to regulations and in the unlikely event that they might be required to work with children in the creche This was further discussed and confirmed at the regulatory compliance meeting and it was stated that the assistant manager will take responsibility for monitoring the roster.

Supporting documentation submitted

Update staff roster and staff sign in sheet

Summary Comment

The registered provider submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliance. Further information was requested and documentary and photographic evidence was submitted. Based on the information submitted and assurances provided by the registered provider the non-compliance identified under Regulation 16 has been adequately addressed. This will be reviewed at the next inspection.

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

(b) appropriate and suitable care practices are in place in the pre-school service, having regard to the number of children attending the service and the nature of their needs.

(2) A registered provider shall ensure that no corporal punishment is inflicted on a pre-school child whilst attending the service.

(3) A registered provider shall ensure that no practices that are disrespectful, degrading, exploitive, intimidating, emotionally or physically harmful or neglectful are carried out in respect of a pre-school child whilst attending the service.

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Compliance Information

There were 3 rooms in operation on the days of the inspection namely; The ECCE Preschool Room, The Wobbler Room and The Toddler Room.

(1)(a) The following examples demonstrate how the registered provider ensured that children's learning, development, and well-being was facilitated in the service:

Basic needs:

- The children in the Wobbler room were facilitated to sleep in sleep room adjacent to the care room. The children attending the Toddler room were provided with the opportunity to sleep on day beds set up in the care room after lunch.
- The children who were toilet trained were encouraged to use the toilet independently. Staff members were responsive to the children's cues should they need to use the toilet, with discreet supervision provided and assistance given if required. Gentle reminders were also given to wash their hands afterwards.
- Children's nappies were changed regularly and in a timely manner with warm one-to-one interactions during direct care.
- Aprons were available and used to protect the children's clothes for during messy play.
- Basic care needs were attended to regularly for example, noses were wiped frequently, and hairs tied up if needed.
- The children's drinks bottles in all care rooms were stored on a low-level accessible window shelf and were visible and accessible to the children at all times thus promoting their independence.
- Healthy eating was promoted in the service as was evident by the dinner and snacks provided by the resident chef in the service. A varied menu was displayed, and food and snacks were provided at regular intervals throughout the day. On day 1 of inspection, breakfast plus the morning snacks were observed to consist of cereals, toast, yoghurts and fresh fruit. Dinner provided consisted of chicken curry and rice. The afternoon snack consisted of fresh fruit, crackers and ham and cheese. On the 2nd day of inspection, breakfast plus the morning snacks were reported to consist of cereals, toast, waffles and fresh fruit. Dinner was reported to consist of potato waffles, fish fingers and bread and butter. The afternoon snack consisted of ham and cheese wraps and yoghurts

Additional portions were provided if the children requested and portion size and consistency was appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children in each room. Staff in the Wobbler room sat with the children during mealtimes and assisted the children as necessary while also encouraging them

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to eat some of the fruit e.g. *"would you like to try some fruit....its yummy.."*. Children's dietary requirements were facilitated in the service. When discussed the staff were familiar with each child's dietary needs and how the chef facilitates this on a daily basis in the service.

Supporting relationships around children

- The parents and children were observed being greeted warmly and some children sought hugs from the staff on arrival to the service.
- On arrival parents were afforded the opportunity to share information with the staff member regarding their child for example one parent shared that the child was having a "no" day and the staff then were aware the child needed time and space to settle in.
- A written record of the pre-school children's meals, activities, general wellbeing and, if relevant, nappy changes and sleep was maintained by staff members on a daily basis for children attending the Wobbler and Toddlers rooms. This information was also verbally shared with the parents when the children were being collected from all rooms in the service. In addition to verbal communication, the service used other means including a mobile messaging application and notices posted in the entrance hallway and outside the care rooms.
- The staff were observed to interact with the children in a warm and supportive manner. Soft tones, plus positive and respectful language were observed in interactions between the children and staff members for example, a child who was upset and wanting their mammy was comforted, lifted and told *"ah you're ok mammy is going to be back "*, *"you look very stylish today"* and *"clap hands everybody.... Well done everyone"*.
- The children were observed to actively seek out the staff.
- The staff were obviously familiar with the children and their families *".....your grandad has chickens....?...I thought that.."* *"...what does your daddy drive?...yes the big bus for the boys and girls going to school..."*
- Staff members discussed the individual needs of children and were aware of the supports required e.g. *"come here sweetheart...I will clean your face first and then we will change your nappy...will we wash your hands ?..."*
- In the Preschool Room jobs were allocated to the children to promote independence such giving out the lunches.

(2) When discussed, the staff were aware of the behaviour management policy of the service and what practices are prohibited. No prohibited practices were observed during the inspection days.

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(3) Strategies were observed being implemented for children who required additional supports in the service. Throughout the care rooms the staff approached children's behaviour in a supportive manner, calmly distracting or re-directing the children and using problem-solving techniques to good effect before any minor issues escalated for example; "excuse me.. click click listening ears" and "walking feet please".

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 19 to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and

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

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

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

Compliance Information

(1)(b) Cosy areas consisting of mats, cushions and soft furnishings were available in all care rooms should a child needed to take a break from activities and rest. A separate sleep room was available with 8 standard cots for the younger age group who required sleep. Stackable day beds were available for the children aged over 2 year who required a sleep in the Toddler Room after dinner time.

(3)(a) Both the staff and registered provider gave assurances that the outdoor area was not in use on the days of inspection. The registered provider and staff advised that a risk assessment deemed the area 'slippery' and that it was waiting to be cleaned by the maintenance staff. The outdoor area was located to the side of the premises and was secured by gates and fencing. The area had varied surfaces including; grass, a paved path and safety matting. A variety of toys and equipment was available for the children to access including; a toy kitchen, a slide, 2 wooden playhouses, a plastic playhouse and picnic tables for seating.

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Non-Compliance Information

(1)(b) Sleep facilities were found to be inadequate as demonstrated by the following:

1. In the sleep room 4 out of 8 cot mattresses did not have the required safety standards label available for inspection. No documentary evidence was available on the days of inspection of a risk assessment having been carried out on the cots used for sleep and this was confirmed by the staff present.

This is a recurring non-compliance from the last inspection that was carried out on 15/05/2025 and is also at variance with the corrective and preventative actions that were previously submitted to address the non-compliance which stated that *"In the sleep room all our mattresses are of the same standards and quality, however this occasion, the label has fallen off. For future only mattress with label attached will be used. Staff have been trained to do risk assessment and supervisor will ensure these procedures are adhered. New risk assessment in place"*.

The previous actions submitted therefore did not prevent the non-compliance reoccurring.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The response from the registered provider stated that new mattresses were in place and had the required safety labels. A daily risk assessment is in place for each room, on this assessment there is now an insert that requires the member of staff doing the assessment to check the status of the mattresses, check for wear and tear and make sure labels are intact, and report to management immediately should they notice any issues

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence

Risk assessment document

Summary Comment

The registered provider submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliance. Further information was requested and documentary and photographic evidence was submitted. Based on the information submitted and assurances given by the registered provider the non-compliance identified under Regulation 20 has been adequately addressed. Implementation and sustainment of the corrective and preventative actions will be assessed at the next inspection.

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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.

Non-Compliance Information

The Inspectorate is not assured that adequate steps have been taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the pre-school children attending the service based on the following observations made during the inspection:

General Safety:

1. The radiator surface of 1 of the radiators in the Wobbler Room was recorded at 54.1 °C at 8.45am which exceeds the maximum safe radiator surface temperature of 50 °C. This is a potential burns risk.

Infection Control:

The following infection control risk were observed:

2. There was not a constant supply of hot water in the sink in the lobby of the sanitary accommodation off the Preschool Room or the nappy changing area off the Wobbler Room. This does not support effective hand washing and the children and staff were observed to predominantly use these sinks for handwashing.
3. The waterproof covering on 2 out of 8 mattresses in the sleep room were cracked and torn in places. The foam on the mattresses was exposed and this does not allow for effective cleaning. This is a recurring non-compliance from the last inspection that was carried out on 15/05/2025. It is also at variance with the corrective and preventative actions that were previously submitted to address the non-compliance which stated that "One of the cot mattress who was showing slight defects was replaced from the stock. A risk Assessment sheet is in place which is done on a daily basis".
The previous actions submitted therefore did not prevent the non-compliance reoccurring.
4. At approximately 9am, blue roll from the nappy changing area in the Wobbler Room was used to clean down the tabletop in the care room as the blue roll in the room had run out. It is acknowledged that the staff member did request new roll be brought to the room for and was then available for the rest of the day.

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Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Actions

The response from the registered provider stated the following

1. The temperature valve has been fitted to the radiator which can be adjusted by staff to achieve a suitable safe temperature. A risk assessment check list is now in place and this will be checked daily by room leader and will report to management should there be any issues.
2. The hot water tap in the nappy area in the wobbler room has been repaired. Staff have been instructed to contact management when they notice any weakness or inefficiency in the mechanics of the taps, so that preventative maintenance may be carried out to avoid complete breakdown.
3. New mattresses are in place. Staff have been instructed to check the mattresses thoroughly daily, should they see any wear and tear this must be reported to Management immediately. This check is now included on the risk assessment sheet to be signed off by management
4. Staff have been instructed to adhere to the risk assessment and check their paper towel stock, if they are running low they need to arrange to restock.

Supporting documentation submitted

Documentary and photographic evidence

Risk assessment sheet

Summary Comment

The registered provider submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliance. Further information was requested and documentary and photographic evidence was submitted. This was further discussed at the regulatory compliance meeting. Based on the information submitted and assurances given by the registered provider the non-compliances identified under Regulation 23 have been adequately addressed. Implementation and sustainment of the corrective and preventative actions will be assessed at the next inspection.

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Part VI - Safety

Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service by an employee or an unpaid worker.

Compliance Information

(1) The service maintained accurate details of all children in attendance during the inspection. The arrival and departure times of the preschool children in attendance were documented by the staff present on the separate 'roll books' for each of the 3 care rooms. It was observed that the children who moved to their individual care rooms from the Wobbler Room at 9.00am were signed out of the Wobbler Room register and then into their individual room register.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 27 – Supervision

A registered provider shall ensure that pre-school children attending the service are supervised at all times.

Compliance Information

The inspectors observed staff supervising children primarily by sight throughout the period of inspection. The layout of the rooms supported staff in being able to maintain sight of the children.

Each of the rooms had access to their own sanitary facilities off the care room. Staff were aware of children who used the sanitary facilities and maintained verbal or visual contact with children at these times.

The children attending the Wobbler Room were supervised when transitioning to the separate sleep room. When settled staff were observed to carry out the required 10-minute checks on sleeping children. The children in the Toddler room who used floor beds were supervised by the staff in the care room during sleep time.

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Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Non-Compliance Information

- (c)
- The room temperatures throughout the service at various times throughout the day of inspection were not maintained at 18-22 °C as per best practice guidelines and so as to ensure a comfortable environment for the children
For example;
 - At 8.40am the room temperature in the Wobbler Room was recorded at 16.6° C.
 - At 9.10am the room temperature in the Preschool room was recorded at 17.2° C
 - At 11:30 the temperatures in the sanitary accommodation off the Preschool Room were recorded at 16° C and 15.7° C.
 - On review of documentation available of the room temperatures from the 5th of January 2026, room temperatures in the Preschool room were recorded as low as 10° C at 9.30am.
 - There was not an adequate means of recording the room temperatures in the service. For example, in the Preschool Room there was a paper wall thermometer which was not working. As a result the staff were observed to use the thermometer used to check the children's temperatures to try and record the room temperatures.
- (e) In the nappy changing area off the Wobbler room the hot tap on the sink was broken and not working. There was no hot water available in this sink. Once it was brought to the staff's attention it is acknowledged that the maintenance person and registered provider carried out maintenance works during the inspection.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- The heating time clocks were out of sync due to a power outage over the holiday period this was duly adjusted and the heating was restored immediately.

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2. New thermometers have been purchased and are now in place in each room. All staff have been instructed to monitor the temperatures in their rooms, and should there be any issues to report to management immediately.
3. All taps are now functioning correctly. Staff have been instructed to contact management when they notice any weakness or inefficiency on the mechanism of the taps, to enable maintenance to be carried out to prevent a complete breakdown, this is now include on the risk assessment

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence of wall thermometers.

Temperature records

Risk assessment template

Summary Comment

Based on the information submitted and assurances given by the registered provider the non-compliances identified under Regulation 29 have been adequately addressed. This will be reviewed at the next inspection.