

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015LH084		
Name of Service:	Scoil Beag		
Address of Service:	Balriggeran, Kilcurry, Dundalk, Co. Louth		
Eircode:	A91 YV04		
Name of Registered Provider:	Aileen McBride		
Service type:	Full Day		
Date(s) of Inspection:	25/05/2023		
No of pre-school children:	AM	77	PM 36
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Child Wellbeing Centre, Castleblayney Co. Monaghan		
Inspection undertaken by:	M. Flood, S. Skinnader and S. Cully		
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		

Description of service

Scoil Beag is a community-based service that is managed by a voluntary committee and has been in operation since January 2007. The service provides full day care; part-time and sessional care to pre-school children from 6 months - 6 years of age. The maximum number of children that be accommodated is 93 and the service operates from 8.00am – 5.30pm daily.

The service operates from 2 separate buildings in the rural village of Kilcurry, Co. Louth. The main building is purpose-built and has 5 care rooms in operation namely: The Baby Room, The Waddler Room, The Toddler Room, The Junior Sessional Pre-school Room and The Senior Preschool Room. The second building is a community centre and the Senior Sessional Pre-school Room (Dinny Casey Room) operates from within this building. There is off street parking available for parental drop off and collection.

There are a number of outdoor play areas on the premises and the children also access the activities hall in the community building. Ancillary accommodation in the service consists of a separate sleep room, storage areas, utility room, office, kitchen and sanitary accommodation.

Staffing

On the day of the inspection there were 16 childcare staff present including the deputy manager for the service. One additional adult was present on a community employment scheme. There was one ancillary staff member also present who was engaged in catering duties.

Methodology

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of early years services in Ireland. The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 define the duty of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of children and to comply with these regulations. This Act also gives Tusla the authority to assess compliance with the regulations. The purpose of regulation in relation to early years services is to ensure that the care, safety, and well-being of children attending such services is upheld. Inspections of early years services are planned based on the following:

- Previous inspection history
- Any information received in relation to the service

The findings on inspection are based on:

- Information obtained through examination of documentation
- Direct observation
- Discussion with relevant staff

This inspection was unannounced and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspections may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9, 11, 19,20, 21,22, 25 and 28; however, on inspection additional non-compliance which posed a significant risk was identified under Regulations 16 and 23. These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations within this report.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance and as a result, the scope of the inspection included the following rooms; The Baby room, The Waddler room, The Junior and Senior Preschool rooms and the Dinny Casey room.

Inspection findings are documented in the inspection report which is first issued in draft format to the service with an opportunity to respond to any findings. Where statutory requirements are identified as not being met, the registered provider must demonstrate how they have rectified the non-compliance and will prevent any non-compliance from re occurring. The Corrective Action and Preventive Action plan (CAPA) will be used to inform decisions about compliance with regulatory requirements. Where the registered provider fails to meet the statutory requirements an escalation process may be commenced.

The inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including clarity, completeness and compliance with administrative and legal processes.

The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.

Additional Information

An Immediate Action Notice was issued in respect of safety concerns, for elevated sleep room and care room temperatures that were identified on the day of the inspection. A response was received and the information was accepted by the inspectorate.

Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the deputy person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

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

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

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

(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 person in charge and a named deputy person to deputise as required. The deputy person in charge was on the premises when the inspectors arrived unannounced to the service.

(2)
Following a review of the service file, staff roster and a discussion with the service manager, it was confirmed to the inspectors that there were three new members of staff employed in the service since the last inspection including one adult who was on a community employment scheme.

The staff files in relation to the three new staff members were viewed on the day of inspection:

(a) & (b) There were 2 written and validated references available for two new members of staff in the service. One written and validated reference was available for the third staff member employed in the service.

Four written references available were from a past employer and one written reference was from an alternative source.

(c) Documentary evidence of a processed Garda vetting disclosure was available for each of the three new staff members.

(d) Documentary evidence of a processed international police vetting was available for one staff member who had resided outside the of the Irish jurisdiction for more than 6 consecutive months as an adult.

(4) Documentary evidence was available to demonstrate that two new staff members who work directly with the pre-school children held at least the minimum required Level 5 on the National Framework of Childcare Qualifications. A qualification was not required for the third member of staff at this time.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a)&(b)

One staff member who was engaged on a community employment scheme did not have a suitable second written and validated reference available for inspection.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(2)(a)&(b)

A second reference was requested from the staff member who subsequently provided a reputable reference from a previous employer which has been validated by management.

Management has checked all staff files to ensure validated references are held on file in respect of all adults working in the service. New and existing staff files will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure the necessary documents are filed and up to date.

Supporting documentation submitted

Documentary evidence of written and validated reference

Summary Comment

The service manager submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliance together with photographic evidence of the outstanding written and validated reference. Based on this information the non-compliance under Regulation 9 has been 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) During the period of inspection there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.

(2) On the day of the inspection when the inspectors arrived unannounced to the service at 10.30am there were 17 adults working directly with the 77 pre-school children present. The following adult: child ratios were observed;

- Two adults were present in the Baby room with 7 children aged 9 months to 1year 5 months.
- Four adults were present in the Waddler Room with 13 children aged 1 year to 2 years.
- Three adults were present in the Junior Preschool Room with 15 children aged 3 years 4 months to 4 years and 1 month.
- Three adults were present in the Senior Preschool Room with 19 children aged 3 to 6 years.
- Two adults were present in the Junior sessional Preschool Room with 10 children aged 3 to 4 years.
- Three adults were present in the “Dinny Casey” Room with 13 children aged 4 to 5 years.

Two additional adults were also on the premises, one who was the deputy person in charge, and one adult who was engaged in catering duties.

(8)(a) Following a review of the available documentation e.g., staff rotas and children’s attendance records this information demonstrated that the registered provider ensured that there were at least 2 adults on the premises at all times.

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

(1)(i)

The deputy person in charge, service manager and administrative staff were not included on the staff roster provided on the day of the inspection.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1)(i)

Management has developed a weekly office staff roster located beside the floor staff roster in office. Management will ensure the weekly office roster is reflective of the office staff hours.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence of weekly staff roster.

Summary Comment

The service manager submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliance. Based on this information the non-compliance has been addressed.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, welfare and development of child

(1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that-

(a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child,

Compliance Information

(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:

- Healthy eating was promoted in the service and there was a menu on display which provided a variety of meals and snacks. The staff were observed to sit with the children at meals times and engage in social conversation which promoted a social and relaxed atmosphere. The children were encouraged to be independent with feeding while staff also provided assistance if required.
- Independence with toileting was promoted for the children who were toilet trained and discreet supervision was also provided by staff to give gentle reminders about hand washing. Those children who required assistance with toileting or nappies changed were supported with toileting and changed as necessary. Good interactions were also observed between the staff and the children during nappy changing procedures.
- The children's personal care needs were attended to with noses being wiped as needed and hands washed regularly.
- Individual child led sleep needs were facilitated in the Baby and Waddler Rooms.
- All children attending the service had a change of environment to the outdoor areas on a number of occasions during the inspection. The babies were also brought for a walk in a buggy in the afternoon.

Supporting Relationships

- The staff throughout the service were observed to interact with the children in a warm and supportive manner. Soft tones and positive language were observed in interactions between the children and staff. For example, in the Baby Room the staff were observed to offer reassurance and comfort to the children who were upset by sitting on the floor and comforting them when they needed.

- Parents were informally communicated with at drop off and collection times. The staff reported that telephone calls and social media are also used to share information about upcoming activities/events and to discuss any care related issues. A communication diary was used in the care rooms to share information between staff about the additional day to day needs of the care room. The staff informed the inspectors that that most communication with parents is carried out through an electronic interlinked application set up between the service and the parents. Information pertaining to the children’s care needs, activities and photographs are shared with parents through this method.

Physical And Material Environment:

- In general, the children attending the service had free movement within their care room.
- In each of the care rooms there was a variety of play materials and equipment.
- There were defined areas of interest that were supported with play materials and equipment. The equipment was suited to the ages and stages of development of the children present and promoted many areas of child development.

Programme of Activities

- The children attending each of the care rooms were observed to engage in a variety of activities throughout the inspection e.g., table- top activities, story time, free play, sensory play, art activities and outdoor play.
- Documentary evidence was available of ongoing observations which the staff reported were used to inform planning for the curriculum. Many of the activities were child led and the children’s choice was facilitated e.g., in the Waddler Room the children’s names and photographs with “*I like to play.....*” completed by the staff and were on display. The children were provided with choices for which activity they wished to engage with or to take a break from activities in the “quiet Zone”.

Non-Compliance Information

Basic Needs:

1. The Junior Preschool Room became chaotic from 12.30pm as there were up to 17 children in the room. For example, 5 children were gathered around the door to the outdoor area looking out but were not taken outside. Some started fighting over toys and one child accidentally stood on another child’s hand leading to screaming and crying. Eventually at approximately 13.10pm, 7 children were taken up to the garden by a staff member leaving 9 children in the room. This automatically relieved the chaos that was occurring within the room.

2. One child aged 14 months was brought into the Junior Preschool at approximately 12.30pm as he was not availing of a sleep prior to going home. He was placed on the small mat on the floor beside the basket of books with no age-appropriate toys to play with. In addition, the noise level at this time in the room was upsetting for the child who was comforted when this issue was brought to a staff member's attention.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

Basic Needs:

1. Management have spoken with staff on the importance of maintaining control of the room during the transition period. Staff have been reminded to inform management if the room becomes too busy. Staff have been reminded to utilise all available additional spaces in order to ensure a calm space for the children.
Staff will continue to make use of the additional rooms/areas in the Service ie the Junior Sessional Preschool room, outdoor area and the hall during this transition period to separate children into smaller groups, engaging in play and activity to ensure all children's needs are met.
2. Management have reminded staff to ensure each staff member is aware of children who enter and leave the room during this time, and to ensure that age-appropriate activities and learning is available to all children.
Staff will ensure activities are set up and ready for the children to be invited to join in during this transition period.

Summary Comment

The service manager submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliances. Based on this information the non-compliances have been addressed. Implementation and sustainment of the corrective and preventative actions detailed will require assessment at the next inspection.

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-

(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)

- A separate sleep room was located off the Baby and Waddler Rooms which contained 7 cots.
- Stackable day beds were available for children who required sleep in the Waddler Room and were set up on the floor at the service's designated sleep time after lunch/ dinner.
- A suitable comfortable rest area was available in each of the care rooms, with soft seating, mats and cushions provided, should a child need to rest or take a break from activities during the day.

(3)(a) Outdoor area

The enclosed outdoor play area extends from the front to the rear of the main building and was divided into 3 separate areas:

Area 1: was located to the front and side of the building and was accessed by the children attending the Baby Room. This area was gated and fenced and had paved stones and artificial grass surfaces. The area had a partially covered section with sand and water trays. A variety of equipment included planting boxes, an age-appropriate slide, ride on equipment, a play shop and the staff were also observed to take the children for a walk in the buggies available.

Area 2 was located to the rear of the building off the preschool Rooms. The area had a safety mat surface and is enclosed and secured by gates. A number of pieces of age-appropriate play equipment were available including a low-level slide, a large wooden climbing frame with two slides, rockers and ride on equipment such as trikes and bikes.

Area 3 was located behind area 2 and was identified as “the sensory garden”. This area was spacious and had a grass surface. It was secured with fencing and gates. A variety of play experiences were available for the children including wooden balance beams, climbing frames, a wooden tepee, a wooden climbing bridge, a climbing wall and tunnel. Interest areas were developed and had appropriate supporting equipment including a mud kitchen, planting boxes, a large digging area, and a “buddy hut” where the children could sit and chat with their friends or with the staff.

Non-Compliance Information

(3)(a)

1. A number of areas of the safety surface in outdoor Area 2 were lifting and were a potential trip hazard.
2. The metal windowsills in the outdoor area had unprotected sharp edges and were a potential injury hazard.
3. The blackboard mounted on the wall of the sensory garden was in a state of disrepair as the wood was peeling away from the board.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(3)(a)

1. Area 2 has been addressed with the maintenance man and corrective action was taken to ensure these safety surface tiles are stuck correctly.
All faults or damages of equipment and resources will be reported to management as soon as possible.
2. Metal windowsills have been flagged with the maintenance man as needing repairs to ensure safety.
All faults or damages of equipment and resources will be reported to management as soon as possible.
3. The blackboard in the sensory garden has been removed and will be replaced with a new blackboard.
Staff will carry out risk assessments of the sensory garden before and during use to ensure safety for the children and staff. Management will also do spot checks to review the effectiveness of equipment in sensory garden.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence of repaired safety surface in the outdoor area.

Documentary evidence of outdoor risk assessments

Invoice for repair of the soft surface in the outdoor area.

Summary Comment

The service manager submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliances, together with documentary and photographic evidence. Further information was requested regarding the repair of the outdoor area and this was subsequently received via email. Based on this information the non-compliances have been addressed. Implementation and sustainment of the corrective and preventative actions will require assessment at the next inspection.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 21 – Equipment and materials

A registered provider shall ensure that there is adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment and materials available on the premises of the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

- In each of the care rooms there was a wide variety of play materials and equipment. The equipment was suited to the ages and stages of development of the children present and also promoted many areas of child development. The play equipment was stored at ground level or on low level open shelving which was accessible to the children.
- In the playrooms the toys and equipment available was divided into specific areas of interest including sensory play areas which included sand and water trays, trays with shredded paper, sensory toys and bottles, paint and associated art equipment. There were also wall mounted activity centres and a mirror with shaped cushions to promote safe crawling and climbing, push along toys and a home area with dolls and supporting play equipment, a variety of blocks and manipulative fine motor toys. A rest and reading area with a variety of books, quiet zone tent, soft seats and mats were also available.
- In each care room furniture including tables, chairs and storage shelving was age appropriate and mostly well maintained.
- Evidence of the children's artwork was on display in each of the rooms.

Non-Compliance Information

1. In the Junior Preschool room, there were plastic boxes with jigsaws in them. These did not have pictures of the jigsaws on them to enable a child to complete them.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1. The staff in Junior Preschool room have been spoken to about labelling the jigsaws and ensuring children have a visual aid to help them complete them.

Staff will check each jigsaw to ensure they are labelled correctly for the children's use and will replace any missing or torn labels on a regular basis.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence.

Summary Comment

The service manager submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliance. Based on this information the non-compliance has been addressed.

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

All children attending the service on a full day care or part time basis had their meals and snacks provided by the services resident cook. On the day of the inspection the lunch time food provided was observed to include mince beef, vegetables, potatoes, and gravy. When questioned the staff informed the inspector that alternative foods were also available for children who did not eat the dinner on offer. Breakfast was reported to consist of toast and fresh fruit and the afternoon meal was reported to consist of cocktail sausages and chips. Snacks and lunches sent in from home were stored appropriately.

Potable drinking water was available for the children to access as required.

In the Baby Room the staff reported that bottles of formula are brought in by the parents already prepared and stored in the refrigerator.

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 was not assured that adequate steps have been taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the pre-school children attending the service. The following observations were made:

General Safety

1. The care rooms felt very warm, and the temperatures exceeded the maximum recommended safe and comfortable room temperature of 18-22 °C.
For example: The room temperatures were recorded as follows;
At 11.12pm the room temperature of the Junior Preschool Room was recorded 24 °C
At 12.24pm the room temperature of the Junior Preschool room was further elevated and was recorded between 26 and 26.4 °C
At 12.33pm the room temperature of the Senior Preschool Room was recorded between 23-24 °C
2. A low level trailing electric lead from both a speaker and a fan was potentially accessible to children accessing one of the cots in the sleep room.
3. One plastic 'foot' of the caterpillar tunnel in the sensory garden was cracked leaving sharp edges that poses a risk of injury to children.

Infection Control

4. The 'blue' paper hand towels used by the staff and children in some of the nappy changing areas and sanitary accommodation of the service were not hygienically dispensed from a paper towel dispenser and were observed to sit on the nappy changing surface, on a windowsill and radiator. This practice is a cross-contamination risk.

Safe Sleep

5. The room temperature of the cot room and the Waddler room sleep area exceeded the recommended safe sleep room temperature of 16-20 °C.
 - For example: The room temperature of the Cot room was recorded as follows;
At 13.00pm the temperature was recorded 23.7 °C
At 13.16pm the temperature was recorded 24.0 °C

These elevated temperatures went unnoticed by staff until it was brought to their attention by the inspector. There was no documentary evidence of room temperatures being recorded, or a risk assessment being completed. The staff reported that they used the wall mounted thermostat as a guide which incorrectly showed 20.0 °C as the room temperature. Additionally, one of 2 wall mounted air conditioning units were not switched on in the Waddler room.

6. One child aged 1 year 5 months was observed asleep in their cot with a comfort toy covering their face. This went unnoticed by staff carrying out their 10-minute sleep observations until it was brought to their attention by the inspector.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Actions

General Safety:

1. Immediate action was taken to control safe temperatures in the care rooms.
Junior Preschool and Waddler room staff were spoken too on the correct use of A/C Units. Morning staff have been advised to turn on A/C units in the morning before children arrive to the service, and the units are to be used throughout the day. Notices of protocols for maintaining safe temperatures and the use of A/C Units have placed on the walls of the rooms.
Air conditioning units in Junior Pre school, Waddler and office have been serviced to ensure optimum performance.
All room wall mounted thermostats have been calibrated to ensure they are effectively fit for purpose. The registered provider has purchased a certified temperature sensor.
As a back-up in addition to the wall mounted thermostats, a digital thermometer has been purchased for each room to ensure accuracy on recording and monitoring temperatures within each room.
Portable air conditioning units and fans were used in the Senior Preschool room to maintain appropriate temperatures, windows and doors were left open in the room when children were not in use of the room to create air flow throughout.
Morning staff are to ensure air conditioning units are used if and when appropriate to control a safe room temperature.
2. The speaker lead in the cot room has been placed on a shelf with the lead secure to ensure no children can reach when lying in the cot.

The fan was used in the cot room when needed and positioned away from the cot to ensure the lead is inaccessible to a child.

3. The red plastic foot of the caterpillar has been removed.

Infection Control:

4. Towel dispenser in Dinny Preschool has been checked to ensure fit for purpose and restocked. All staff have being reminded of the cross contamination risk of handling blue roll and to ensure that the correct dispenser is used.

Safe Sleep:

- 5 &6 Management have had a discussion with staff highlighting the importance of safe sleep, and the use of risk assessments prior to and during children's sleep times. i.e, temperatures and sleep toys in the cots. Digital thermostats are to be used daily to help staff record room temperatures accurately and appropriately. Staff will ensure that all temperatures are recorded on the sleep sheets and management will conduct spot checks to ensure adherence.

Supporting documentation submitted

- Documentary evidence of protocols for maintaining room temperatures and instructions for use of air conditioning units.
- Invoice for maintenance of air conditioning units.
- Photographic evidence of temperature recording devices and risk assessment documents.
- A sample of room temperature records.
- A sample of safe sleep observations

Summary Comment

An Immediate Action Notice was issued in respect of safety concerns, for elevated sleep room and care room temperatures that were identified on the day of the inspection. A response was received together with supporting documentation which were accepted by the inspectorate.

The service manager submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliances, with additional documentary and photographic evidence. Further information was requested regarding safe sleep observations and risk assessment and this information was submitted. Based on this information the non-compliances have been addressed, however implementation and sustainment of the corrective and preventative actions will require assessment at the next inspection.

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) and (b) The first aid boxes available in the service were stored in conspicuous locations on the premises and were available for the children at all times

Non-Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider did not ensure that a person trained in first aid was available to the preschool children at all times. From a review of qualifications available and the weekly staff rota cover was not available between the hours of 17.30pm – 06.00pm on the Monday prior to the inspection.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1) Management will ensure FAR trained staff are available on site throughout the working hours of 8am to 6pm daily. Management will review the roster on a weekly basis to reflect FAR trained staff are available at all times of service operations.

Summary Comment

The service manager submitted details of the corrective and preventative actions taken in the service to address the non-compliance. Based on this information the non-compliance has been addressed, however implementation of the corrective and preventative actions will require assessment at the next inspection.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

Documentary evidence was available of an up-to-date insurance certificate, which detailed adequate insurance cover for up to 93 preschool children with an expiry date of 27/03/2024.