

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015LK126
--------------------------	-------------

Name of Service:	Little Seeds Childcare Moyross Community Enterprise Centre Ltd
-------------------------	--

Address of Service:	Moyross Community Hub Moyross Limerick
----------------------------	--

Eircode:	V94V0NP
-----------------	---------

Name of Registered Provider:	Marian Duggan
-------------------------------------	---------------

Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
----------------------	--------------------------------

Date of Inspection:	26/08/2025
----------------------------	------------

No of pre-school children:	AM	21	PM	7
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	---

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla Early Years Inspectorate 2nd Floor Estuary House Henry Street Limerick
Inspection undertaken by:	J Ryan
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Authority to Inspect

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

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
---------------------------------	----------------

Description of service

This is a community service which provides sessional, part-time and full day education and care to pre-school children. It operates from 08.30hrs to 18.00hrs and is registered to cater for a maximum of 100 children aged 1-6 years.

The service operates from a purpose-built building in an urban residential area. There are five care rooms in operation namely, beetle room, bumble bee room, caterpillar room, ladybird room and butterfly room. There is a dedicated sleep room with cots for children aged less than 2 years. The service has outdoor play areas located in the premises where children have access to outdoor play equipment.

Staffing

The service employs 32 staff. Staff working directly with the children have the required childcare qualifications that range from Level 5 to Level 8 on the national qualifications framework.

There are two staff members working in the kitchen with Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) training. The registered provider does not work on site in the service.

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 and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9,11 and 27; however, on inspection an additional non-compliance which posed a risk was identified under Regulation 23. These findings are outlined within the relevant regulation 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.

Additional Information

.The inspection was triggered by information which was received to the early years inspectorate.

Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the 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*

(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) There was a designated person in charge and a named person who was able to deputise as required.

(b) The designated person in charge and the deputy person in charge were available on the premises on the day of inspection.

(2) All staff files had been reviewed on the inspections dated 3rd December 2024 and 14th April 2025.

There were no new staff members employed in the service since the last inspection.

The person in charge had ensured that each employee working in the service was suitable and competent as the following documents were available on file for all staff members.

(a) References were available from the person's past employers and in particular the most recent employer.

(b) References were available from sources other than past employers in the case of a person who had no past employers.

(c) Vetting disclosures were received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of all staff. Thirty Garda Vetting documentations were dated within the last three years as per the regulatory notice EYI-RN12.3 renewal of Garda vetting published by the Inspectorate in September 2023 and effective from 01 January 2024.

(d) No staff member had lived outside the jurisdiction for a period of longer than six consecutive months; therefore, international police vetting documentation was not required.

(4) All staff working directly with the children had childcare qualifications ranging from Level 5 to Level 8 on the national qualifications framework.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.

Compliance Information

(2) The minimum ratio of staff to children was maintained, and an adequate number of staff were present.

On 26/08/2025 there were 9 staff working directly with 21 pre-school children in the morning and there were 8 staff working directly with 7 pre-school children in the afternoon.

The following demonstrated the number of children and staff present on 26/08/2025:

- Beetle Room - There were 4 children (1-2 years) and 3 staff present.
- Bumble Bee Room - There were 7 children (1-2 years) and 3 staff present.
- Caterpillar Room - There were 10 children (1.5-2.5 years) and 3 staff present.
- Ladybird Room – Room was closed on the day.
- Butterfly Room – Room was closed on the day.

Designated staff were appointed for cooking, preparation of meals and administrative duties.

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

General Safety:

1. Garda Vetting documentation for two staff members present on the day of the inspection were not dated with in the last three years as per the regulatory notice EYI-RN12.3 renewal of Garda vetting published by the inspectorate in September 2023 and effective from 01/01/2024. This posed a potential risk to the safety and wellbeing of children in the service if vetting procedures are not maintained.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

The service has received the two staff members up to date garda vetting and they have been updated on both files.

A list of all staff working in the service has been compiled with their renewal date for garda vetting will be checked monthly by management to ensure full compliance at all times.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

Documentary evidence was submitted of updated Garda Vetting Documentation.

Summary Comment

The actions as stated by the registered provider meet the regulatory requirements of the regulations.

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

A policy on the supervision of children both indoors and outdoors was available.

The staff training policy demonstrated that all staff had received a copy of the policies and had familiarised themselves with each policy.

Each relevant staff member understood their role and responsibilities in relation to supervising children at all times in the service whilst also maintaining the rights and dignity of each child.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Each child attending the service was under the supervision of a qualified staff member at all times.

Children were supervised primarily by sight. Supervision for short intervals by sound (listening) was allowed where staff could talk to children who are out of sight.