

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015LS049			
<b>Name of Service:</b>	Portlaoise Nursery and Montessori School			
<b>Address of Service:</b>	Stradbally Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois			
<b>Eircode:</b>	R32 TK60			
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Avril Byrne			
<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional			
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	23/04/2025			
<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	25	PM	23
<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla, Child and Family Agency, SAP Office, St. Loman's Campus, Mullingar, Co Westmeath.			
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	C. O'Connor Hughes & K. Murphy			
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspectors			
<b>Authority to Inspect</b>				
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.			

### Description of service

Portlaoise Nursery & Montessori School is registered to accommodate children aged 1 to 6 years. The service operates from 08:00-18:00 on a Monday to Friday basis.

The service operates from an adapted two-storey domestic premises consisting of two entrance lobbies, four pre-school rooms namely the wobbler room, caterpillar room, the butterfly room on the ground floor and the ladybird room on the first floor. A designated interconnected sleep room was located on the first floor. An enclosed outdoor play area is located to the rear of the premises. The ladybird room was not in operation due to the Easter holidays.

### Staffing

Six staff members including the designated person in charge were working directly working with the children. The registered provider was not present for the inspection.

### 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 inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under:

- Regulation 9 Management and Recruitment (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(c)(d) (4)

- Regulation 11 Staffing levels (1)(2)(8)(a)
- Regulation 15 Record of a Pre-school child
- Regulation 16 Record of a pre-school service (1) (h)(i)(k)
- Regulation 18 Copy of the Act
- Regulation 19 Health, Welfare and Development of Child
- Regulation 20 Facilities for Rest and lay
- Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child - General Safety
- Regulation 25 First Aid
- Regulation 26 Fire Safety Measures
- Regulation 28 Insurance

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 to the registered provider on the 24 April 2025 in respect of Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child.  
A response was submitted by the registered provider and the actions were accepted by the Early Years Inspectorate on the 25 April 2025. See body of report for details.

### Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish 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.

(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 has a designated person in charge and a person to deputise in the absence of the designated person in charge.

(b)

The designated person in charge was present for the duration of the inspection

Twelve staff files including the registered provider were reviewed and the following was noted:

(2)(a)(b)

The required number of written validated references were available for the twelve adults from past employers and from a source other than a past employer.

- (c)  
A Garda Vetting disclosure was available in respect of the files reviewed. The service demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
- (d)  
Police vetting was available for six adults who had lived outside the state for a period of longer than six consecutive months.
- (4)  
Adults working directly with children attending the service held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at levels 5 to 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

## Part III – Management and Staff

### Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

- (1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.*
- (2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.*
- (8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-*
- (a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times.*

### Compliance Information

- (1)  
The minimum ratio of adults to children was maintained during the inspection.
- (2)  
There were twenty-five children attending the service supervised directly by six adults in the morning. Twenty-three children were present in the afternoon supervised by six adults.

### Non-Compliance Information

(2)

1. At 11:20 It was observed that there was no relief cover available when two children left the caterpillar room to use the toilet unsupervised. Upon request of the inspector the designated person in charge left the kitchen to assist the children.
2. At 12:05 a child vomited onto the floor at dinner time in the toddler room. There was no relief person to assist the child to change their clothes in a prompt manner as one staff member cleaned the floor while the other staff member assisted the children eating their dinner. The designated person in charge was organising dinner for the other children in the service.

(8)(a)

The staff roster reviewed indicated that two adults were not on the premises at all times. Upon review of the staff roster only the designated person in charge was rostered between 08:00 and 09:00.

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

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

(2)

1&2. Relief staff are now put in place to start earlier every day to assist with dinners and relief covers. Part time staff are rostered to stay longer to cover breaks. The service will ensure that correct number of staff is maintained all the time.

(8)(a)

The roster was adjusted to comply with regulations. They are two staff opening and two staff closing. The member of staff which is on sick leave was contacted and asked to work from 1-6 pm every day from when she will be fit to redeem back to work. In the meantime, the rest of staff take turns to be second person present for closing.

The service will plan the roster correctly and roster two staff for opening and closing the service.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

Staff roster.

### Summary Comment

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next inspection.

## Part IV – Information and Records

### Regulation 15 – Record of pre-school child

*(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a pre-school service in a drop-in centre or a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a record in writing is kept in respect of each pre-school child attending the service containing the following particulars:*

- (a) the name and date of birth of the child;*
- (b) the date on which the child first attended the service;*
- (c) the date on which the child ceased to attend the service;*
- (d) the name and address of a parent or guardian of the child and a telephone number where that parent or guardian or a relative or friend of the child can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service;*
- (e) authorisation for the collection of the child;*
- (f) details of any illness, disability, allergy or special need of the child, together with all the information relevant to the provision of special care or attention;*
- (g) the name and telephone number of the child’s registered medical practitioner;*
- (h) record of immunisations, if any, received by the child;*
- (i) written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency.*

### Compliance Information

(1)

In a sample review of ten child records information relating to (a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g)(h) and (i) was available in respect of the children attending the service.

## 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:

- (a) the name, position, qualifications and experience of the person in charge and of every other employee, unpaid worker and contractor;
- (b) details of the class of service and the age profile of children for which the service is registered to provide services;
- (c) details of the adult: child ratios in the service;
- (d) the type of care or programme provided in the service;
- (e) the facilities available;
- (f) the opening hours and fees;
- (h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;
- (i) details of staff rosters on a daily basis;
- (j) details of any medication administered to a pre-school child attending the service with signed parental consent;
- (k) details of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.

#### Compliance Information

(1)

The service kept and maintained written records of information in relation to the service in accordance with Regulation 16 (1) (a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(h)(j)(k).

#### Non-Compliance Information

(1)(i)

The staff roster presented was not dated. The designated person in charge stated it was a roll over roster.

The weekly attendance sheet presented for the week of April 21 – 25 did not detail the following:

- The allocated rooms the staff members worked in.
- The relief cover available for staff breaks.
- The full names of the staff members.

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

(1)(i)

**Corrective and Preventive Action**

The rosters are now planned weekly or fortnightly. There is enough staff to cover breaks, (relief and part time workers). Attendance records are updated and are including the full names. On each roster the staff has a designated room with abbreviations e.g. C for crèche etc so they all each room there are designated to. The service will keep roster and attendance records updated.

**Supporting documentation submitted**

Staff roster.

**Summary Comment**

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next inspection.

**Part IV – Information and Records**

**Regulation 18 – Copy of Act etc.**

*A registered provider shall ensure that a copy of Part VIIA (inserted by section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 (No. 40 of 2013)) of the Act and of these Regulations is kept on the premises and the said copies shall be open to inspection on the premises by-*

- (a) a parent or guardian of a child attending or proposing to attend the service,*
- (b) an employee, unpaid worker or contractor, and*
- (c) an authorised person.*

**Compliance Information**

A copy of the of Part V11A (inserted by section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 (No.40 of 2013)) of the Act and Regulations was available in respect of (a)(b)(c).

## 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)

#### Caterpillar, Toddler and Butterfly rooms.

Children enjoyed play experiences indoors and outdoors supervised by staff during the inspection. Children were observed to play freely in the pre-school rooms. Staff sat with children talking to and assisting them with the tabletop activities.

At approximately 12:00 a main meal consisting of bacon, potato and vegetable was served to the children by the designated person in charge. Water was offered to drink with the main meal. Younger children were encouraged to feed themselves and were assisted as required. Nappy changing was carried out regularly and when needed.

Staff stated parents are communicated with through electronic mail with updates and information from the service. A child's learning journal was reviewed depicting their play and work activities. This journal is shared with parents at the end of the pre-school term.

Staff were positive towards children in their care evidenced by eye contact maintained during conversations and interactions, using individual names and giving positive praise on the completion of activities.

Low level tables and chairs were available to children in the pre-school rooms. Age and stage appropriate materials were available to children on low level shelving. A home area and rest area with books were noted.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

#### Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

(1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-

(a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and

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

(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)(a)

Suitable play equipment was provided which included toys and equipment for construction, tabletop activities, arts and crafts and home corners in the toddler, caterpillar and pre-school rooms.

(b)

Soft furnishings provided facilities for rest and relaxation in the caterpillar and pre-school rooms.

Two interconnected sleep rooms were located on the first floor and equipped with eight cots.

Low level beds were available for children over two years to sleep on.

(3)(a)

An outdoor play area was located to the rear of the premises. The outdoor play area was segregated by wooden fences and gates into smaller play areas. The surface areas consisted of concrete and all-weather absorbent coverings. A high-level wooden fence secured the perimeter. A shed was in place for the storage of additional play equipment. The areas were equipped with climb and slide units, mini slides and a variety of bikes, trikes and scooters.

#### Non-Compliance Information

(1)(b)

1. The rest area in the toddler room required review as it was not a cosy area for children to rest and relax.
2. Three mattresses in the cots were exposed foam in the sleep room.

3. The mattresses of four cots in the sleep room did not have labels attached to indicate that they conformed to a recognised safety standard.
4. There were no waterproof protective covers in place for the mattresses in use.
5. Four of the cot mattresses in use were stained.
6. One mattress was contained within a zipped cover which large and did not fit the mattress which posed a potential risk of entrapment or suffocation.
7. There was no source of artificial lighting in place in the left-hand section of the interconnected sleep room to observe sleeping children as required.

(3)(a)

The following hazards were noted in the outdoor play area:

1. The green, yellow and pink plastic slides were noted to be cracked with exposed edges which posed a potential injury risk to children.
2. The protective rubbers on the handles of a white bicycle, yellow tricycle and two scooters were missing leaving exposed metal bars which posed a potential injury risk.
3. Part of the pink, blue and white toy pedal car was noted to be to be cracked with exposed edges which posed a potential injury risk to children.
4. There was no protective panel in place on the side of a large wooden climb and slide unit to protect children from a potential fall. A wooden piece that was to be attached to the frame was loose with an exposed nail noted which posed a potential injury risk to children.

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

(1)(b)

#### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

1. The rest area in the toddler room has been made more cosy for children to rest and relax. The person in charge ordered nice waterproof seating with backrest.
  2. Three mattresses with exposed foam were removed immediately and children were offered low beds temporarily until the new mattresses come from a retail company. Three mattresses were delivered on 19/05/2025.
  3. Eight waterproof mattresses were ordered in total from a retail company (three in first order and five in second order). Five new cots were ordered because the service couldn't find correct size mattresses for existing cots.
- 4/5/6. Eight waterproof mattresses were ordered in total and conform to a recognised safety standard. All mattresses have labels attached stating that they conformed to a recognised safety standard.

The service will ensure that ordered mattresses come from recognized supplier and inspection on a weekly basis recorded on weekly cot mattresses check; Record no: 002. Correct size mattresses covers will be used.

7. An artificial light was installed in the left-hand side of the sleep room. There are no other places without artificial light in the sleep room.

(3)(a)

1. The green, yellow and pink slides were replaced.

2. New protective rubbers for handlebars were ordered and broken one were replaced.

3. The pink bike was disposed immediately.

4. The wooden panels were mounted on climbing platform. The wooden piece attached to the frame was repaired.

The service will replace or fix broken equipment immediately and use outdoor safety checklist as provided. The service will regularly check if equipment is safe to use for children. Gluing the bottoms of the slide to the ground will prevent the slides from moving.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

Photographic evidence of mattresses, cots, light fitting, equipment and receipts.

### **Summary Comment**

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next 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

##### General Safety:

The entrance to the service was secure to ensure the safety of the children within. The inspectors signed the visitors book on arrival.

##### Administration of Medication:

Temperature reducing medication was available in the service if a child presented with a high temperature and stored safely in the service.

##### Safe Sleep:

A record of the colour, position and breathing of sleeping children was noted in sleep logs. The sleep room temperature was recorded at 17.2 degrees Celsius. A digital thermometer was noted in the sleep room.

#### Non-Compliance Information

##### General Safety:

1. It was observed at times during the inspection that the gate on the kitchen door was left open and the kitchen and its contents within were accessible to children which posed a potential risk of injury.
2. The window blinds on the windows in the service did not conform to a recognised safety standard which require blind cords to be prevented from forming loops which posed a potential risk of injury to children. The window blinds should be replaced with cordless models.
3. Electric hand dryers with three pin plugs were noted near the wash hand basins in the sanitary accommodation which posed a potential risk of electric shock in the wet environments.
4. In the caterpillar room devices with plugs were plugged into a multi extension unit which was plugged into a socket which posed a potential risk of socket overload.
5. Two children were observed to wear hooped earrings and two children were observed to wear necklaces. This posed a potential risk of injury to the children if the jewellery was caught or pulled.
6. Appropriate light fittings were not in place and exposed bulbs were noted in two areas of the service which posed potential risk of harm if a bulb shattered.
7. The wooden radiator cover in the sleep room were not appropriately secured or anchored to the wall which posed a potential injury risk of injury to children.

8. On the ground floor the emergency exit doors with panic bars were used for the children exiting to gain access to the outdoor play area and children entering to gain access to the sanitary accommodation. A metal weight was used to keep the doors slightly ajar. A risk assessment or practice procedure was not in place to ensure that these doors did not suddenly close and cause injury or harm to the children.
9. The toilet tissue dispenser in one of the toilet cubicles in the sanitary accommodation adjacent to the toddler room on the ground floor was broken and held together with tape which posed a potential injury risk of injury to children.
10. A basket of sunscreen bottles was accessible to the children in an openable cupboard in the sanitary accommodation adjacent to the toddler room on the ground floor which posed a potential injury risk of injury to children.
11. Safety checklists were not in place for the pre-school rooms and outdoor play areas.

### Infection Control:

1. The nappy changing practice observed was inadequate for infection control purposes due to the following:
  - Staff did not wash their hands before nappy changing.
  - Aprons were not worn by staff when carrying out nappy changing.
  - The children were redressed with the same gloves used for nappy changing.
  - Staff did not wash their hands after nappy changing.
  - Children's hands were not washed after nappy changing.
  - Staff wore used gloves while returning children to their pre-school rooms.
2. A step-by-step nappy changing procedure was not available or displayed in the sanitary accommodation incorporating nappy changing in the service.
3. The gloves used for nappy changing did not provide sufficient infection control properties. The gloves were designed for food preparation only.
4. Regular hand washing of children and staff hands was not in operation in the service.
5. Baby wipes used to clean children's hands were not suitable for infection control purposes.
6. Foot operated pedal bins were not in place in the sanitary accommodation, nappy changing area and in the pre-school rooms for the hygienic disposal of waste materials.
7. Sweeping brushes and pans in the pre-school rooms were full of dust and debris and required replacement.
8. Clothes, toys and equipment were stored in the sanitary accommodation which posed a risk of potential cross contamination.
9. There were no paper towel roll dispensers in place in the service for paper hand towels used by staff which posed a risk of potential cross contamination.

10. Cleaning agents were stored in unlabelled containers without the manufacturer's instructions relating to the contents, dilution and use of the cleaning product attached.
11. Children's lunches with perishable foods were stored in the children's lunch bags in the Caterpillar room.
12. The safety straps on two highchairs were heavily stained and required cleaning.
13. Correct Infection control procedures for cleaning up a child's vomit was not in place in the service.
  - The staff member did not wear an apron.
  - The staff member removed the gloves and did not wash their hands after cleaning.
  - The staff member did not clean and disinfect the floor.
  - The infection control policy dated 29 June 2020 was reviewed and it was noted that the policy did not have the required details from the HSE Management of Infectious Disease in Childcare Facilities and Other Childcare Settings, in respect of spillages of body fluids (e.g. urine, faeces or vomit).
14. Layers of dust were noted on electronic equipment in the wobbler room and on the first aid box in the ECCE room on the first floor.
15. The Velux window in the roof space of the sanitary accommodation adjacent to the toddler room was not accessible or openable to allow for ventilation to the sanitary accommodation which posed a potential infection control risk.
16. Toilet brushes were accessible to children in the sanitary accommodation which posed a potential risk of harm to the children who might access the brushes during unsupervised access to the sanitary accommodation.

### Administration of Medication:

1. Documentation reviewed indicated that the practice of medication administration was incorrect as a second person to witness and check the dose of the medication was not in operation in the service.

### Safe Sleep:

1. There were six children aged 1- 3 years occupying the eight available cots in the interconnected sleep rooms located on the first floor. It was observed that a staff member did not remain in the room with the children once they had fallen asleep.
2. A visual and sound monitor on the interconnected sleep rooms was not available to see and hear the children once the staff member had returned to the ground floor.
3. There was no internal telephone communication system in place for staff to be able to summon additional help and support in the event of discovering a fire or an emergency on the first floor.
4. Three cot mattresses were exposed foam for children to sleep on.

*An immediate action notice was sent to the registered provider on the 24 April 2025 by the Early Years Inspectorate. The registered provider response submitted on the 25 April 2025 was accepted by TUSLA.*

### **Fire Safety:**

1. A site-specific evacuation plan was not available to indicate the specific actions to take place if a fire broke out on the first-floor area.
2. A risk assessment was not available to identifying risks associated with sleep rooms located on the first floor and control measures put in place.
3. There was no risk assessment for the management of any emergency that may occur in the interconnected sleep rooms on the first floor.

*An immediate action notice was sent to the registered provider on the 24 April 2025 by the Early Years Inspectorate. The registered provider response submitted on the 25 April 2025 was accepted by TUSLA.*

4. There was no self-illuminated fire exit signage installed to indicate the fire exit routes from the interconnected sleep room on the first floor in the event of a fire in the premises.
5. Keys contained in a break glass unit for windows in the interconnected sleep rooms on the first floor were not labelled to indicate which key opened which window.
6. Fire safe restrictive opening devices were not in place on the windows located on the first floor.
7. There were no fire assembly points indicated by signage in the grounds of the premises.
8. Keys to the windows in the caterpillar room and the toddler room on the ground floor were not immediately available to staff in the event of an emergency.

### **Action submitted by the Registered Provider**

#### **Corrective & Preventive Action**

##### **General Safety:**

1. All staff were reminded and advised about keeping the gate or door to the kitchen closed.  
Advised all staff of importance keeping the gate to the kitchen closed.
2. The new cordless blinds were ordered. Blinds were fitted on 23/05/2025.  
Implement and adhere to recently updated or newly established regulations, guidelines or practices.
3. The hand dryer plug was moved to safe location (outside of the bathroom) on 18/05/2025.  
The service will adhere to safety standards.

4. On 17/05/2025 electrician permanently moved wires to different location so a multi extension units are not in use. The service will not use multi extension units.
5. Parents were advised on day of inspection to don't let children wear hooped earring and necklaces. The service will remind parents at the door that hooped earring and necklaces are not safe to wear in childcare setting.
6. Ceiling lights were replaced on 17/05/2025. The service does not use lamps with exposed bulbs.
7. The radiator cover in the sleep room was fitted to the wall. All radiator covers will be secured to the walls.
8. Safety tape was installed on the floor to the front of exit doors and children are asked to stay in line before going outside with teacher. Stay hooks were installed to prevent door accidentally closing.
9. All broken toilet tissue dispensers were replaced on 17/05/2025. The service will replace broken equipment.
10. Sunscreen bottles were removed from a low location and were placed on the shelves out of reach of children. Latch was installed on cupboard for storage. The service will keep potentially hazardous items out of reach of children.
11. Safety check list developed and available for playrooms and outdoors. The service will use the safety check list to ensure unsafe equipment are removed.

### Infection Control:

1. 1.The new nappy changing policy was developed. Staff members were shown new nappy changing policy and retrained in infection control by taking each step on the nappy changing policy. The updated nappy changing policy is displayed in the nappy changing room. The staff booklet has been updated with the new nappy changing policy.
2. A step by step nappy change policy displayed in changing room.
3. The gloves were replaced with suitable gloves for nappy changing. The service will order gloves that are suitable for nappy changing.
4. Regular hand washing is in operation and staff were reminded to wash their hands and children's hands regularly. Staff will adhere to hand washing policy.
5. Baby wipes are not in use to clean hands before meals. Children attending the toddler room have their hands washed regularly as per the hand washing policy.
6. A foot operated pedal bin was ordered for nappy waste. Foot operated bins only will be used in the service.

7. All sweeping brushes and pans were replaced with new ones. The service will change brushes and pans on the regular basis.
8. Clothes and toys were removed from under sink and nappy changing unit. The service will not store clothes or toys under nappy changing unit or under sink in changing area.
9. The new paper towel dispenser were fitted in each room. The service will use paper towel dispensers for blue rolls.
10. Bottle sprays with cleaning products were labelled. The service will ensure all bottles are labelled with the contents.
11. Children's lunchboxes are checked every morning and perishable food from children's lunchboxes will be placed in the fridge. The service will check children's lunches every morning and place perishable food in the fridge.
12. The safety straps were checked and all stained were washed. The service will ensure adequate cleaning will be put in place.
13. The infection control policy was updated and shared with staff. The service will review the infection control policy.
14. Dust was removed from DVD in the toddler's room and first box on first floor. Staff were updated on cleaning, list created for areas to be checked and signed off by staff.
15. A velux opening pole was purchased. The pole is available in the sanitary accommodation.
16. The toilet brush was removed from children toilet in ladybird room upstairs. Toilet brushes will be stored out of children toilets.

### Administration of Medication:

1. The new administration book was ordered from a childcare company. The new book will be used for recording medication administered to children.

### Safe Sleep:

1. Staff stay in the sleep rooms during the children's nap time. CCTV with visual and sound monitor was also installed a few days after inspection. The physical presence of staff and CCTV is in operation in the sleep room.
2. CCTV with sound monitor was installed in the sleep rooms. Maintain CCTV in the sleep rooms.

3. Walkie talkies were purchased for internal telephone communication for staff to summon additional help and support in the event of a fire or an emergency on the first floor. Staff will use walkie talkie for internal communication between sleep rooms and playroom.
4. Three mattresses with exposed foam were removed immediately and children were offered low beds temporarily until the new mattresses come from Wesco. Three Mattresses were delivered on 19.05.2025. The service will keep sleeping equipment in good condition, the weekly inspection will be recorded on Record no: 002 attached.

### **Fire Safety:**

1. A site-specific evacuation plan was developed and displayed in sleep rooms upstairs and ladybird room  
A fire company specialising in Health and Safety and Fire Regulations are employed to review and update the evacuation plans on regular basis.
- 2 & 3. A fire risk assessment was developed by a fire company. The service will review the fire risk assessment annually.
4. Fire exit signage installed on the sleep room door. The service will keep all fire exits marked with fire signage.
5. Keys were checked and they open any windows in the service.
6. Fire safe restrictive opening devices were fitted on the windows which can be used in case of fire evacuation. The service will adhere to the fire safety regulation and conduct fire risk assessment regularly.
7. Fire assembly points signs were installed in the outdoor play area. The service will keep fire assembly point marked.
8. Keys to the windows in the caterpillar room, toddler room and ground floor were brought from the office and hung beside each window on the ground floor. Keep windows keys easily accessible for all staff.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

#### **General Safety:**

Photographs, invoices and receipts.

#### **Infection Control:**

Updated nappy changing policy and photographs.

#### **Administration of Medication:**

Administration of medication book.

#### **Safe Sleep:**

Photographs of cots and mattresses.

## Fire Safety:

Photographs, fire evacuation procedures, fire risk assessment. CCTV and Walkie talkie equipment.

## Summary Comment

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on 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

(1)

Two adults were qualified in First Aid response (FAR) were available on the premises.

(2)(a)

A free standing and wall mounted first aid box were available in the service.

(b)

A first aid box was accessible to the adults caring for the children in the pre-school service.

### Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a)

1. The first aid boxes were not stocked in line with TUSLA requirements as outlined in the Quality Regulatory Framework document. Checklists were not in place.
2. The first aid box on the first floor did not contain the following required items:
  - Sterile eye pads
  - Water based burns dressings
  - Crepe bandage
  - Wound dressings

- Paramedic shears
- Powder free nitrile gloves
- 3. The first aid box on the ground floor was noted to contain expired dressings and solutions.

## Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

(2)(a)

### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

1.The first aid boxes were checked and restocked according to checklist.

2.The first aid box on the first floor was restocked.

The service will check the first box regularly using TUSLA recommended check list.

3. Expired dressings and solutions were disposed of and new ones were purchased for the first aid box on the ground floor.

### **Supporting documentation submitted**

Photographs of the contents of the first aid boxes.

## Summary Comment

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next inspection.

### 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 firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.

#### Compliance Information

(1)(a)

A written record for the completed monthly fire drills was available on the premises. The last fire drill was recorded as taking place on the 31 March 2025.

(b)

A record was available demonstrating the number and type of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises.

(4)

A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire on the ground floor was displayed in a conspicuous position in the service.

#### Non-Compliance Information

(1)(b)

A record was not available demonstrating that regular maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises was carried out. Records presented indicated that equipment in the premises was last serviced in 2023.

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

(1)(b)

##### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

The certificate for the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms was obtained. The service will schedule a service maintenance regularly.

## **Supporting documentation submitted**

Maintenance certificates for firefighting equipment and smoke alarms.

## **Summary Comment**

The actions submitted are appropriate to address the non-compliances. The implementation of these actions will be reviewed on next inspection.

## **Part VI - Safety**

### **Regulation 28 - Insurance**

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

## **Compliance Information**

There was evidence of current insurance cover for the number of children attending the service. The expiry date noted was 27 March 2026.