

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015LS053		
Name of Service:	Darling Buds Montessori & Daycare		
Address of Service:	8 The Garden Village, Portlaoise, Co. Laois		
Eircode:	R32 HX66		
Name of Registered Provider:	Niamh Walshe		
Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional		
Date of Inspection:	19/03/2026		
No of pre-school children:	AM	48	PM 37
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla, Child and Family Agency, Primary Care Centre, Church Avenue, Tullamore Co. Offaly R35 K1W4		
Inspection undertaken by:	R Flynn and F Carty		
Title:	Early Years Inspectors		

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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).

Description of service

Darling Buds Montessori and Creche offers full day care, part time and sessional early learning and care to children aged between 0 to 6 years, from 08:00-18:00 on a Monday to Friday basis. Darling Buds is one of four services operated by the registered provider. The service operates from an adapted two-storey premises in the town of Portlaoise, Co Laois. The two story service consists of an entrance lobby, a baby room, a wobbler room, a toddler room on the ground floor. ECCE 1 and ECCE 2 are located on the first floor. An enclosed outdoor play area is located to the rear and side of the premises.

Staffing

The registered provider employs sixteen staff to work in the service. There were fourteen adults present on the day of the inspection. This included the registered provider, the person in charge, the deputy person in charge, ten childcare staff working directly with the children and a staff member in the kitchen. The registered provider manages oversight of the service and does not work directly with the children. The person in charge and deputy person in charge facilitated the inspection on 19 March.

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

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under:

- Regulation 9 (1)(a)(b), (2) (a)(b)(c)(d), (4) – Management and recruitment,
- Regulation 10 – Policies,
- Regulation 11 (1)(2) – Staffing levels,
- Regulation 16 (h)– Record in relation to preschool service,
- Regulation 19 (1)(a) – Health, welfare and development of child,
- Regulation 23 – Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child,
- Regulation 25(1),(2)(a)(b)– First aid,
- Regulation 26(1)(a)(b),(4)– Fire safety measures,
- Regulation 29 – Premises.

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 in respect of Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child (General Safety) was issued to registered provider on site on 19 March 2026.

The response submitted by the registered provider on 20 March 2026 was accepted by Tusla.

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Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, 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.

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Compliance Information

(1)(a)

The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.

(b)

The registered provider and the deputy person in charge were on the premises throughout the inspection.

(2)

Following a review of previous inspection information, information available on inspection and discussion with the registered provider it was determined that two new staff members were employed to work in the service since the previous inspection held on 13 November 2025.

(a)

Three written validated references were available from a previous employer and

(b)

One written validated reference was available from a source other than a previous employer.

(c)

Garda vetting was available for all staff members employed. The service demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d)

Police vetting was not required as the two new staff had not lived outside the state for a period of longer than six consecutive months as an adult.

(4)

Records were available evidencing that the two new staff members who were employed to work directly with the children held the required qualification at Level 5 to 7 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Non-Compliance Information

(4)

One staff member employed to work with the children did not have a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications or an equivalent. The staff member advised the inspectors that she was employed to work with the children as was recorded on the roster as working in the ECCE 1 room. It is acknowledged that this staff member was working in the kitchen on the day of inspection and was not involved in the direct care of children.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

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Corrective and Preventive Action

The staff member is on Kitchen duties until she has completed her Level 5 qualification. The service will ensure that all staff employed hold a full Qualification and will ensure all certificates are presented before commencing employment.

Supporting documentation submitted

Employment policy received.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions taken and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 9 (4) has been addressed.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 10 - Policies, procedures etc. of pre-school service

A registered provider of a pre-school service shall ensure that the written policies, procedures and statements specified in Schedule 5 are in place for the service.

Compliance Information

The following policies were in place in the service; the content of each was reviewed and deemed to meet regulatory requirement:

- Complaints policy
- Policy on Safe Sleep
- Policy on Staff Absences

Part III – Management and Staff

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Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

(1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.

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

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-

(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times.

Compliance Information

(1)

On arrival at the service, there were forty-eight children being supervised directly by nine childcare staff.

(8)(a)

There were at least two adults on the premises during the operational hours of the service. This was confirmed following review of the staff roster for the service.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)

The minimum ratio of adults to children was not maintained throughout the day of inspection demonstrated by the following observation:

- From 11.26am to 12.00pm there were 10 children being supervised by 1 adult in the Wobbler room as a staff member changed children's nappies. During this time there was no support staff available to maintain the required adult to child ratio in the room.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The service has implemented a 'floater staff' who will cover and support staff when cover is required. The registered provider has communicated with staff regarding the importance of ensuring all staff feel supported throughout their day and know that the staff member is available to cover when required.

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Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the response and actions submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 11 has been addressed.

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:

- (h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;*
- (i) details of staff rosters on a daily basis.*

Compliance Information

(h)

The attendance records of children were recorded at the time of entering and leaving the service.

Non-Compliance Information

(i) The staff roster was available on the day of inspection however it did not accurately reflect the adults working in the service:

- A staff member from the ECCE 1 room was noted on the roster from 09:00 – 18:00 however, did not arrive at the service until 10:40.
- The person in charge was recorded on the roster 08:00 – 17:00 however, they arrived at the service at 10.30.
- A staff member in the ECCE 1 room was rostered to work from 09:00 – 12:00 on the day of inspection, however, was still working in the service past 13:00pm.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(i)

- The manager will ensure staff cover for all appointments going forward. Employees will make appointments outside of working hours, if possible, if this cannot be accommodated cover for that staff to attend appointment will be got.
- The person in charge was called to another service before inspection commenced to deal with a staff issue and left the duty manager in charge. She returned as soon as she could.

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Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the corrective actions submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 16 (i) 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, and

Compliance Information

(1) (a) Basic Needs

Parents provide the children's morning snack. The service provides a hot meal, which are provided from an external catering company and reheated in the onsite kitchen. Dinner served on the day of inspection was tomato pasta with chicken and garlic bread. Children sat together at low tables eating, staff also sat with the children, engaging in conversation.

Babies were supported by staff during mealtimes and were fed in highchairs. Children wore bibs to protect their clothing.

A baby in the Baby room was observed to be free to lie and roll on a floor mat in a safe space. Staff working in the baby room were sensitive and responsive to the baby in their care.

Supporting Relationships

Staff members in the Baby room and Toddler room demonstrated warmth and sensitivity in their interactions with the children. For example, the staff member in the Baby room communicated positively with the baby in their care using soft and gentle tones, offered reassurance by sitting near them on the floor as they explored.

Physical and Material environment

An adult sized armchair was provided in the Baby room to allow adults working with the children to sit, feed and comfort the babies. Bibs and aprons were available to the children for messy play activities. Children in the Wobbler room were observed participating in a painting activity after lunch.

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Children had access to an outdoor area throughout the day. Outdoor climbing equipment, playhouses and slides were available to the children. Children were observed in the outdoor area on the push and ride on equipment such as trikes, scooters and toy tractors.

Non-Compliance Information

1. The individual sleep needs for children under 2 years of age were not facilitated. Children who were notably tired and in need of a sleep were observed having to wait until a cot became free before being placed for a nap. There were 11 children in the Wobbler room aged 1-2 years occupying the five available cots in the sleep room located in the Wobbler room. It is acknowledged there were other cots available in the service however, staff did not use these.
2. The basic care needs of the children in the Wobbler room were not met as follows;
 - Two children were observed to return to the care room from outdoor play with wet clothing. Their bottoms and top were wet. Despite staff interacting with them throughout the inspection including changing their nappy, the clothes were never changed.
 - There were a number of children attending the Wobbler room with large amounts of mucus running from their noses. Despite interactions from staff which included a nappy change their noses were not wiped in a timely manner. On one occasion the inspector requested that the staff member clean a child's nose. Mucus was first observed by the inspector at 10.46am, their noses or faces were not cleaned until after dinner at 12.10pm.
 - Children were put asleep with all their outer clothing on, they were not provided with a blanket when they were put into bed at 12.25pm. Children were heard laughing and shouting from the cot room. Staff went in and out intermittently and told the children to 'lie down'. This resulted in only two children being asleep at 1.00pm.
 - The children in the Wobbler room were given unsuitable cups to drink from at dinnertime. The children who were all aged one year were given cups with no lids. This resulted in water being spilled over the tables and floors and their clothes becoming wet. There was no staff supervision observed when the children were drinking from the cups.
3. The environment did not support the pre-school children in initiating play activities. The Wobbler and Toddler room layout did not adequately meet the needs of the children present due to a lack of clearly defined interest areas and a lack of available play materials. Equipment such as toy dinosaurs, blocks and other play materials in were all stored together in the one container. It was observed that, due to room layout, the activities were mainly adult led, with minimal opportunity for child-initiated activity. A child in the Toddler room was observed to take a puzzle to play with, with no puzzle pieces. A second puzzle

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board also had no pieces. Staff acknowledged that the child could not play with the puzzle and searched in a toy box to locate the remaining pieces. In ECCE 1, the dress-up costumes available were not hung on the dress up rail and were thrown randomly in a pile which reduced the opportunity for children to see what was available and select a costume of their choosing.

4. The physical environment in the Wobbler room was not purposefully structured to develop young children's curiosity and desire for exploration. Play opportunities were not easily accessible as play equipment was stored in baskets out of the reach of children.
5. Children in the Toddler room were observed to drink diluted black currant drink with their hot meal. No milk or water was available or offered to the children. Sugary drinks are not recommended for children aged between 2-3 years.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1. Children who present tired will be offered a sleep during the day. If cots are occupied in the Wobbler room, cots in the baby room will be used. Staff have been spoken to regarding the importance of being more vigilant and aware of children who maybe showing signs of tiredness. Also spoke about the importance of communicating with parents when a child is being dropped off that they ask how the child slept throughout the night and what time the woke that morning.
2. All children's clothes checked and changed after returning from outdoor play. The registered provider has spoken to staff regarding the importance of checking and acting, if necessary, when children return from outdoor play. Checklist has been given to all staff.
 - Children's noses and faces will be checked and cleaned on a more regular basis by staff.
 - Cellular Blankets are now provided for all children who sleep. A staff member will stay with children in the sleep room until all children are sleeping.
 - Children will only drink from closed cups/beakers and all children will be supervised when drinking.
3. The lay out of the Wobbler and Toddler room has been restructured. New materials have been provided to ensure they adequately meet the children's needs. ECCE 1 room has been provided with hangers for their dress up area. Staff have been retrained in environment layouts and spoken to regarding the importance of how a layout of a child's room impacts their overall development. Also spoken about the importance of all materials being accessible for children to encourage meaningful play.

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4. The Wobbler room physical environment has been restructured with easy access to materials for all children. Staff will ensure the children have space to purposefully play in a well-structured environment and all materials are accessible to them at all times.
5. Only water and milk will be offered to children during mealtimes going forward. Staff provided with and spoken to about the importance of healthy eating.

Supporting documentation submitted

Safe sleep policy received.

Photographs of sleep room and individually stored cellular blankets reviewed.

Letter to parents requesting closed cups/beakers received.

Photograph of new cups/beakers.

Health and safety policy received.

Photographs of new layout in Wobbler and Toddler room with labelled material storage containers.

Photograph of dress up rail with costumes hanging up.

Healthy eating policy received.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions taken and evidence submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 19 (1)(a) have been addressed.

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 door to the pre-school was secured and controlled by staff to prevent children exiting the premises unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access. A bell at the entrance door alerted staff to any visitors. The outdoor play area was secured with a tall concrete wall and wooden fence. The outdoor gate in the outdoor play area was secure during the inspection.

Cleaning products were stored on high shelves, out of reach of children.

The kitchen was inaccessible to children on the day of inspection.

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A low-level handrail was in place for smaller children to use when transitioning between their rooms and outside.

Infection Control:

Liquid hand soap and warm water were available for hand washing. Paper hand towel dispensers were accessible to children for hand drying.

Mechanical ventilation was in place in the sanitary accommodation.

Cot mattresses had removable mattress protectors.

Administration of Medication:

There was one documented care plan available for a child attending the service who required specific emergency medication.

Safe Sleep:

Appropriate sleep equipment was used for children who required sleep.

Fire Safety:

Fire exit routes were unobstructed in the service. An external fire exit door was provided in the hallway located on the first floor. An external staircase led down to the garden. Staff were able to detail the fire drill procedure to the inspector. The fire assembly point was noted on the fence to the front of the premises.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The following water temperatures presented a potential risk of a scald injury to children
 - the downstairs children's sanitary accommodation ranged from 55.4°Celsius - 55.8° - Celsius
 - the ECCE 1 children's sanitary accommodation was 55.4°C.

An immediate action notice was issued to the registered provider on site in respect of Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child, General Safety. This was a noncompliance during inspection on 17/02/2025.

The following hazards were noted in the outdoor play area:

- Four loose toilet bowls were stored in the outdoor play area where children from the Toddler room were playing. Lids from the cisterns were lying on the ground. Children were observed to run up to the toilets. These presented a risk of injury if a child were to pick up a cistern lid and drop one. The toilets had been removed from the upstairs sanitary accommodation and presented a risk of cross contamination or posed a risk of infection.
- A sand/water table was noted to have stagnant brown water presenting a risk of infection if a child were to put their hands or toys into the stagnant water.

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- A plastic table stored upside down and a green container had stagnant rainwater presenting a risk of infection.
- A child approached the inspector and handed her a discarded animal bone which they had been observed putting to their mouth whilst in the outdoor area. The inspector alerted staff to the risk and asked them to dispose of the bone immediately. This posed a risk of choking or injury to the child.
- 2. Daily outdoor risk assessments were not being completed to identify and manage the risks of any hazards in the service. An 'Outdoor Risk Assessment' was noted on the wall leading to the outdoor play area titled 'garden'. The checklist had been ticked and signed by staff indicating that outdoor risk assessments had been completed on the day of inspection and the days prior. The risk assessments did not identify the above hazards.
- 3. Christmas lights were placed around the window in the Toddler room for decoration in reach of the children. The trailing cord was hanging down to the ground and plugged in behind a storage box. This presented a potential risk of injury to a child such as choking or tripping.

Infection Control:

- 4. Handwashing practices in the Wobbler room were inadequate to control the spread of infection. Staff from the Wobbler room did not wash their hands after wiping children's noses. Children were not brought to wash their hands before eating their meals and did not wash children's hands prior or following nappy changing.
- 5. The following was noted in the sanitary accommodation of ECCE 1,
 - Two cloth towels were in the sanitary accommodation in the ECCE 1 room. One towel was on the floor and another hanging on the door handle. Staff advised that the towels were left in the area following the toilets being replaced on 17 March. A child was observed to dry their hands with one of the towels. This presented a risk of cross contamination or infection from using unclean towels.
 - A 'Daily Children Toilet' checklist was observed in the sanitary accommodation of ECCE 1. It was last recorded and updated on 13 March.
 - A swing lid bin in the ECCE 1 sanitary accommodation was in use for used paper towels. Foot operated pedal bins are required for the disposal of waste in sanitary accommodations.
- 6. Plastic drinking cups were stored stacked on top of each other on the sink in the Toddler room. The sink was used for hand washing. The sink was noted to be unclean with a used cleaning cloth and a sponge. Children were observed to put their bowls in the sink after their hot meal. This presented a risk of cross contamination from the cleaning cloth, hand washing and the drinking cups.

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7. A child was observed to pick up a discarded piece of a cereal bar from the garden and eat it. This poses a risk of cross contamination.
8. In the Wobbler room, a child's bowl of hot food was observed to fall upside down onto the floor. A staff member saw this and turned the bowl back up and was observed scooping some of the food back into the bowl and return it to the child. They did not replace it with a new bowl; this posed a risk of cross contamination.
9. The children's soothers were not stored in individual containers, which posed a risk of cross contamination.

Administration of Medication:

10. Two auto adrenaline injectors available for one child in ECCE 1 were out of date and had expired in July 2025.
11. Two children in the ECCE 1 room who required specific medication did not have a specific care plan for inhaled medication. Staff were unable to advise the inspectors of the steps to take if the medication was required. This poses a risk to the child in the event of a medical emergency.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. The water temperatures were regulated by a plumber in the children's sanitary accommodation sinks downstairs and ECCE 1. The service will ensure all sanitary areas water temperatures are checked and correct.
- The toilet bowls were removed from the outdoor play area. Any materials left on the premises by maintenance workers will be discarded appropriately and out of reach by children. A new risk assessment for maintenance workers put in place. Staff spoken to about the importance of checking all rooms once maintenance workers have completed their job. New risk assessment in place.
 - Sand and water tables have been cleaned and covered. Sand and water tables outdoors will be covered to prevent any risk of infection.
 - The Laois County Council warden has been contacted regarding issues with neighbours discarding food in the garden resulting in birds picking the food waste or bones and dropping it in the services outdoor area. Until this issue is resolved staff will check for any food or bones in the garden regularly.

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2. All outdoor toys have been cleaned and will be checked daily to prevent any harm of infection to children. All outdoor equipment and toys will be checked each morning and afternoon before signing the risk assessment. The staff have been spoken to regarding the potential hazards or harm to children if risk assessments are signed off without the assessment being carried out beforehand.
3. The Christmas lights have been removed from the Toddler room. The service will ensure staff are aware of the potential hazard that these cables may cause to a child and ensure any cables are out of reach to any child.

Infection Control:

4. Hand washing procedures have been placed at all hand-washing stations. The hand-washing policy has been given to all staff and spoken to about the importance of hand washing for themselves and children to prevent spread of potential infections.
5. Daily check lists for the children's sanitary accommodation have been updated and will be checked regularly.
 - The swing lid bin in use in ECCE1 sanitary accommodation has been replaced with a pedal bin.
 - Checklist being monitored, checked and completed daily by staff.
6. Plastic drinking cups and bowls are no longer stacked on or in the sink in the toddler room. The sink is cleaned regularly, and cloths and sponges are now stored in a separate basket out of reach from children. A basket has been provided for children to place used cups and bowls in. A cleaning checklist is in place to ensure sinks are being cleaned regularly. A basket provided for cloths and sponges away from children's reach. Staff spoken to about the importance of cleanliness.
7. Children are fully supervised when having snacks in the outdoor area. Staff spoken to about the importance of supervision when children eat in the outdoor area and the importance of cleaning up and discarding all foods that may fall on the ground.
8. All staff have been spoken to about the importance of health and hygiene and how if a dinner spills a new dinner should be offered.

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9. All soothers are now placed in individual labelled boxes to prevent cross contamination and staff have been spoken to regarding the potential risk of infection if soothers are shared.

Administration of Medication:

Parents of children requiring specific medication and care plans were contacted immediately on the day of inspection and out of date epi pens have been replaced. Staff will check dates on all auto injectors regularly and care plans in place. Care plans are in place for children requiring one.

Staff training has been completed in administration medication.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

Water temperature checklist received.

Cleaning checklist for outdoor area.

Photograph of lights removed.

Photographs of the outdoor area with toilets removed and outdoor items cleaned.

Infection Control:

Hand washing policy

Photographs of procedure placed at hand washing stations.

Risk assessment for maintenance workers.

Updated children's toilet checklist

Photograph of new bin in sanitary accommodation.

Photographs of baskets for used cups and bowls.

Photograph of new basket system for cloths and sponges.

Updated cleaning checklist.

Photograph of individual labelled soother boxes.

Administration of Medication:

Photographs of new in date auto injector. Checklist in place for dates of auto injectors.

Care plans for two children received.

Staff training record received.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the response to the immediate action notice, corrective and preventive actions taken and evidence submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 23 have been addressed.

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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)

Four staff members were qualified in First Aid response (FAR) and were available on the premises during the operational hours of the service on 19 March 2026.

(2)(a)

A suitably equipped first aid box was located in the service.

(b)

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

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 26 - Fire safety measures

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of-

(a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and

(b) the number, type and maintenance record of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.

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

Compliance Information

(1)(a)

A written record was available of fire drills completed in the service.

(b)

Records were kept of the maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarm system which were last serviced on 14 October 2025.

(4)

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A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed at doorways throughout the service.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) (a)

Monthly fire drills were not being conducted in the service. The last recorded fire drill was recorded on 08 January 2026.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1) (a)

Fire drills were completed on 24 March, 27 April and 15 May 2026 following the inspection.

Monthly fire drills will be completed in line with regulations and completed monthly.

Supporting documentation submitted

Copy of fire drill record received.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 26 has been adequately addressed.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (a) of sound and stable structure,*
- (b) safe and secure,*
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Compliance Information

(a)

The two-story premises visually appeared to be stable in structure. There was no evidence of dampness or mould on internal walls and ceilings.

(b)

The main entrance door to the service had a bell entry system and was secure to ensure the safety of the children within.

(e)

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Adequate nappy changing facilities and sanitary accommodation were available on the premises.

Non-Compliance Information

(c)

The room temperature in ECCE 1 at 2.57pm was recorded as 24.7°C which is above the required temperature range of 18°C to 22°C.

(d)

The tiled wall underneath the sink unit in the ECCE 1 sanitary accommodation was stained and required deep cleaning or replacing of the tiles.

The sink unit in the ECCE 1 sanitary accommodation was broken and had exposed edging of the vinyl wood, making it difficult to effectively clean.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(c)

Radiator temperature thermostats were fitted by a plumber onto radiators. Staff will check room temperatures regularly.

(d)

A new sink unit has been fitted in the ECCE 1 sanitary accommodation. Tiles have been cleaned.

Staff have been spoken to regarding the importance of cleaning all sanitary units daily. New cleaning checklist has been put in place.

Supporting documentation submitted

Copy of new room temperature checklist.

Copy of cleaning check list.

Photograph of the newly fitted sink unit.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 29 have been adequately addressed.