

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:	12/09/2023		
No of pre-school children:	AM	40	PM 37
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla, Child and Family Agency Primary Care Centre, Church Avenue, Tullamore, Co. Offaly		
Inspection undertaken by:	D. Molloy		
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
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Description of service

Darling Buds Montessori is a full day care service which is privately owned and operated. It has been operating since 2005. The service located in a housing estate in the urban area of Portlaoise town. The service is registered to accommodate up to 66 children from 0 to 6 years.

The opening hours for full day care are 8am to 6pm. A sessional service operates from 9am to 12noon, Monday to Friday. A school aged service is also provided.

This early years' service is located in an adapted domestic two storey dwelling. The premises is used for the sole purpose of operating an early years' service. The service is operated over both floors.

Downstairs there are three care rooms, two sleeping rooms, a kitchen, and a nappy changing facility, an entrance hall, reception area, and a cloakroom/storage area.

Upstairs there are two playrooms, a sensory space, and office and a store room and a nappy changing facility.

There are seven toilets and wash hand basins including a staff sanitary accommodation in the service.

A securely fenced playground is provided to the rear of the building. Parking and set down is available outside the premises.

Staffing

Twelve adults including the person in charge were present and working directly with the children .

All adults employed have qualifications at level 5-8 in in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed to be equivalent.

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 the child, safety, premises, and facilities. The inspections may also focus on other areas as required.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under,
Regulation 10 - Policies, procedures etc. of pre-school service,
Regulation 19 - Health, welfare, and development of child,
Regulation 23 Safeguarding health, safety, and welfare of child.

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

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 II - Registration and Register

Regulation 8 - Notification of change in circumstances

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a temporary pre-school service shall, subject to paragraph (3), notify the Agency in writing of any proposed change in the details in relation to the pre-school service contained in the register pursuant to section 58C(2) of the Act or Regulation 7(2) at least 60 days before it is proposed that the change would take effect.

Non-Compliance Information

(1)The registered provider did not notify the Agency in writing of any proposed change in the details in relation to the pre-school service contained in the register pursuant to section 58C(2) of the Act or Regulation 7(2) at least 60 days before it is proposed that the change would take effect.

It was noted on the day of inspection that the person in charge was different than the named person previously notified to the registration office.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The registered provider in written submission stated that notification has been sent in to TUSLA registration office in respect of change to the name of the person in charge. The registered provided committed in writing that going forward she would ensure that all change of circumstances would be requested prior to implementing change.

Supporting documentation submitted

A copy of the required change of circumstances request and approval was submitted for review.

Summary Comment

Following this action by the registered provider the requirements of this regulation have now been met.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

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

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

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

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

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

(6) Paragraph (4) shall not apply before 1 September 2021 to a person who-

- (a) has signed a declaration on or before 30 June 2016 to the effect that he or she intends to retire from employment in a pre-school service before 1 September 2021, and

(b) is in possession of a letter from the Minister confirming that paragraph (4) shall not apply to him or her before that date.

(6A) is inserted by S.I. No.632 of 2016 CHILD CARE ACT 1991 (EARLY YEARS SERVICES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016 which states; Regulation 9 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations (S.I. No. 221 of 2016) is amended - in paragraph (4), by the substitution of “paragraphs (5), (6) and (6A)” for “paragraphs (5) and (6)”, and (b) by the insertion of the following paragraph after paragraph (6): “

(6A) Paragraph (4) shall not apply to an employee of a registered provider where - (a) the registered provider receives funding for the employment of the employee pursuant to a scheme funded by the Minister and known as the Access and Inclusion Model, and (b) the employment of the employee is for the purpose of providing support, pursuant to the scheme referred to in subparagraph (a), for a child attending the service to enable the child to participate in the programme known as the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) funding Programme.”

Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.
- (b) The registered provider was not present during the inspection and the inspection was facilitated by the designated person in charge. The staff roster showed that at all times the person in charge or delegate was present during the opening hours of the service.
- (2)
- All staff files were reviewed on site on the day of inspection.
- (a) (b) Validated references from staff members’ past employers, in particular the most recent employer were available for review. Validated references from reputable sources were available for review.
- (c) A vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of all-staff member were available for review.
- (d) Police vetting from other police authorities were available for two staff members as required.
- (3)
- Required vetting had been carried out prior to ten staff member being appointed, assigned, or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

(4)

All employees held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5-8 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

(6)(a)(b)

Not applicable as no employee had signed a declaration on or before 30 June 2016, to the effect that they intended to retire from employment in a pre-school service.

6(A)

No employees were working with children under the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM).

Non-Compliance Information

(9)(2)

(d) Required Police Vetting from outside Ireland was not available for three staff members present on the day of inspection.

(9)(3)

Required vetting had not been carried out prior to three staff members being appointed, assigned, or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(2)(d) The registered provider submitted a copy of required Police Vetting from outside Ireland in respect of one staff member which was not available on the day of inspection.

The registered provider in written submission stated that application had been made for outstanding police vetting in respect of the other two staff members.

The registered provider made written commitment to ensuring that the required vetting process would be completed for the two staff members.

(3) The registered provider stated in written submission that required vetting will be carried out in future prior to any staff member being appointed, assigned, or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

Supporting documentation submitted

The registered provider submitted a copy of one outstanding police vetting document as was required.

Summary Comment

As of 13.10.23 the requirements of this regulation have not been fully met as a copy of outstanding police vetting from outside Ireland has not been submitted in respect of two staff members as is required.

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 registered provider ensured that required written policies as outlined in Schedule 5 were in place.

In addition to a statement outlining the statement of purpose and function of the service the following policies were reviewed :

- A policy on healthy eating.
- An infection control policy.
- A policy on the administration of medication.
- A site-specific safe sleep policy.

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.

(4) Subject to paragraph (5), where a registered provider contemporaneously provides-

(a) a sessional pre-school service, and

(b) a full day care service or a part-time day care service, or both, the minimum ratio of adults to children applicable for the duration of the sessional pre-school service in respect of the children attending that service shall be the ratio specified in paragraph (3).

(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 required ratio of adults to children was maintained during the inspection.

(2)

The registered provider ensured that there were sufficient adults working directly with the children. Records showed that the adult child ratio was upheld in the service.

(4)

(a)(b)The required ratio of adults to children was observed during the inspection and records showed that the sufficient adults were rostered to work with the children each day.

(8) (a)

The registered provider had ensured that there were at least two adults on the premises at all times during the opening hours of the service.

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

The registered provider had ensured 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 was available on the premises and could be viewed 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.

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

BASIC NEEDS:

Healthy eating was promoted. Children brought in their morning snacks from home in line with healthy eating. A two-week menu was in place also in line with the healthy eating policy. The service offered breakfast, dinner, mid-afternoon snack, and tea. Main meals were purchased from a professional company, were stored and reheated on site and supplemented with mashed potatoes. The main meal of the day was beef stew and vegetables with potatoes and fresh fruit and milk and water. It was observed on the day that sufficient helpings were available, and children sat at low tables for their meals. Self-feeding was promoted, and adults offered assistance when required.

Babies who were not able to self-feed were fed by staff in an unrushed manner.

Water and milk were provided at meal time. Children were observed drinking from their own containers.

The older children were supported to become independent and self-caring and were encouraged to take care of their own belongings including hanging up their coats and tidying up their toys when finished playing.

SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:

Parents involvement was encouraged, and parents had opportunity to meet with staff each day at hand over time and could come into the service and avail of individual meetings to discuss their own children's progress.

In the baby room the staff were interactive with the infants and a relaxed atmosphere was noted. Infants were laughing and appeared comfortable with adults.

Children who needed additional help and support were given this by staff who helped children with activities and offered praise and encouragement. In the toddler room, children were involved in hand painting and were encouraged by staff in their efforts.

Siblings were cared for together especially in the case of twins.

Non-Compliance Information

BASIC NEEDS

In the toddler room which accommodated children in full day care, it was noted that children age from two years upwards were displaying signs of tiredness especially in the afternoon period. Staff did not act on these cues and signs of tiredness by putting children down for a rest. No child in this room was offered an opportunity to sleep while the inspection was in progress from 11.30 am till 12.45pm and from 1.25pm until 4.30pm.

It was observed and established through enquiry that there is no practice in this room of offering children sleep in keeping with their basic needs although staff were aware of the signs of tiredness and the developmental need for young children to sleep.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The registered provider stated in a written submission that following on from this inspection all staff were given training from management looking at care practice in relation to sleep.

Supporting documentation submitted

The registered provider in a written submission attached a copy of sleep training and completion dates for staff.

Summary Comment

Due to the actions of the registered provider the requirements of this regulation have been addressed and the practice will be observed on the next inspection.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

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

(a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages, and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child 19 to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and

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

Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) A large outdoor play area was located to the back of the premises which could be accessed directly from the play rooms. This area was artificially surfaced and secured by walls and the gate was secured from within. Access to the kitchen area and refuse storage was restricted by picket fence and a gate secured from inside. The play facility was equipped with outdoor equipment and bikes and trikes and push along pull along toys.
- (b) Two designated sleeping rooms were available for children's use. One located off the toddler room and the other beside the baby room. Five cots were available in each room. There were thirteen low beds on the premises suitable for children's use.
- Rest areas including couches and cushions were in place in each room. Upstairs in ECCE Room 1 a sensory corner had been recently developed with rest facility and sensory equipment.

Non-Compliance Information

1. A miniature inflatable bouncing castle located at the back wall of the outdoor play area was partially deflated and not fit for purpose .

2.

- Sufficient access to a bed for children, aged over two years availing of full day care, who required sleeping was not provided for all of the nine children accommodated in the toddler room located to the right of the hallway at the front of the building. Sleeping provision for only two of these children aged two years to two years eight months was provided in one of the designated sleeping rooms downstairs. No provision was in place for the seven other children in this room. Although thirteen low beds were observed in the setting, these beds were in storage upstairs and were not being used.
- It was observed that there was no provision for sleep and no access to a bed for children aged over two years eight months who were accommodated upstairs in ECCE room 1 and Ecce room 2 and who were availing of full day care and so required access to sleeping facility. A total of 18 children were availing of full day care and were accommodated upstairs

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1.

The registered provider in written submission stated that the miniature inflatable bouncing castle located at the back wall of the outdoor play area which was partially deflated had been removed. The registered provider stated that she will ensure that unsuitable items will not be left in the play area going forward.

2.

- In relation to the toddler room where it was found that there were not sufficient beds provided for the children, the registered provider in a written submission stated that since inspection she had made contact with a builder, who has made a visit to the service and is in the process of working on a design to facilitate space for more sleep areas for the children. As an interim measure the registered stated that low beds will be placed in the room for children to sleep on.
- The registered provider in a written submission stated that in relation to children availing of full day care who were accommodated upstairs in ECCE Room 1 and 2, stating that low beds will be now laid out in these rooms so as to allow children to sleep. This will be an interim measure until an additional sleeping room has been provided in line with requirements.

Supporting documentation submitted

1. The registered provider sent a written submission in relation to this which was received by inspector on 04.10.23.
2.
 - The registered provider submitted written submission that sufficient beds would be provided for children in the toddler room and a photograph of beds in this room was submitted.
 - The registered provider submitted a photograph of low beds laid out in upstairs to facilitate provision of sleep facilities for the children.

Summary Comment

Further to the action of the registered provider the non-compliance has not been fully addressed identified on inspection in relation to this regulation will be assessed on the 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

The main entrance to the service was secure and was operated on a controlled entry system from within.

The service had a pest control system in place to safeguard against pests.

Access to the kitchen was restricted.

Cleaning and sanitizing products were stored out of reach of children.

Infection Control:

The service infection control policy was available on site, and it was established through discussion that staff were familiar with infection control procedures.

Childrens soothers were stored dry in individual boxes, were individually labelled, and washed in hot soapy water.

Childrens had their own individual beakers, water bottles and Sippy cups that were individually labelled. No child was being bottle fed .

Administration of Medication:

A site-specific medication policy was available in the service and had been reviewed annually and it was established through discussion that staff were familiar with the with policy in relation to safe administration of medication.

No medication was administered on the day of inspection

Safe Sleep:

Two designated sleeping rooms were provided for children’s use which were restfully decorated and had dimmed lights and blinds. Staff were familiar with safe sleep practices and children had restrictive items removed such as shoes and outer clothing before being put down to sleep. Children were observed sleeping in a safe sleeping position in the centre of the cots.

On the day of inspection sleeping checks were carried out and recorded in relation to sleeping children. Records made on the day were accurate and were documented in sleeping log books. In one of the sleeping rooms where sleep facility was provided for some of the children cared for downstairs a staff member was observed to sit in the room with sleeping children.

In the baby room a staff member physically entered the room which was attached to the care room for the purpose of sleep monitoring.

Fire Safety:

The fire exits were unobstructed. A notice of the fire assembly point was on display to show fire assembly point to the back of the service

Outing:

The person in charge stated that no outings were conducted from the service.

Non-Compliance Information

Infection Control

1. During the inspection it was observed that single use disposable aprons were available but on the first nappy change observed by the inspector the available apron was not used, however upon bringing this to attention of staff member carrying out nappy changing an apron was then used. Aprons were worn on subsequent nappy changing routines.
2. The covers of two mattresses in the sleeping room located off the wobbler room were stained and were not maintained in a clean and hygienic condition .

- Two floor mats in the toddler room were stained and in need of cleaning. One mat in the toddler room was stained and in need of cleaning.

Safe Sleep:

- With the exception of the day of inspection the overall practice of safe sleep monitoring could not be fully verified throughout the service. It was observed that upon review of sleeping records no sleeping records were in place for the toddler room and review of all sleep monitoring records from June to September 2023 showed that records were inconsistently and inaccurately recorded. The date on which these record was made was not always documented, for example records for June 2023 were incomplete and it was noted that in the wobbler room no sleeping records were documented for week commencing June 22, 2023, and there also was a gap in records from August 17 to 18 2023.
- One cot mattress in the sleeping room off the wobbler room was worn was in a poor state of repair and was not suitable for use.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

Infection Control

- The registered provider stated in a written submission received on 04.10.23 that the use of disposable aprons is an expected practice in the service and will be assured going forward for every nappy changing routine and it is accepted that aprons were worn on subsequent nappy changing routines on the day of inspection. The registered provider also stated that refresher training had been delivered to all staff in relation to correct nappy changing procedures.
- The registered provider stated that the covers of a cot mattresses that was stained and was not maintained in a clean and hygienic condition have been removed and replaced by new mattresses and that mattresses covers in a proper condition will be used going forward.
- The registered provider stated that the two floor mats that were stained and in need of cleaning have been removed and replaced and going forward will be properly cleaned and maintained.

Safe Sleep:

- The registered provider in a written submission stated that sleep monitoring is now recorded daily, and records will be maintained going forward.

- One cot mattress in the sleeping room off the wobbler room was worn was in a poor state of repair and was not suitable for use and in response the registered provider stated in writing that new mattresses were now in place and only mattresses in proper state of repair would be used going forward.

Supporting documentation submitted

Infection Control

- The registered provider stated in written submission that all nappy changing will be carried out correctly and staff training schedule was submitted.
- A photograph of new mattress now in place in the cots was submitted.
- A photograph of the new floor mats was submitted

Safe Sleep

- Evidence of sleep records was submitted.
- The registered provider submitted a photograph of the new cot mattress.

Summary Comment

Due to the actions of the registered provider the non-compliances identified in relation to this regulation have been addresses and will be assessed on the next inspection.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service by an employee or an unpaid worker.*
- (3) A registered provider shall ensure that-*
- no person other than-*
 - pre-school child attending the service,*
 - a person dropping or collecting such a child,*
 - an employee, or*
 - an unpaid worker, can enter the premises without his or her entry being approved by an employee, and*
 - a daily record in writing is kept of the entry on the premises of any such person.*

Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider ensured that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service. A daily record was maintained in each room and a service record was maintained in the office which was overseen by the person in charge.

(3)

(a) The registered provider ensured that no person could enter the service without approval as the entrance door was operated on a controlled entry system from within by means of a bell.

(b) A record in writing was maintained documenting persons entering the premises. This record was available on a shelf at the entrance door.

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)
The staff members held first aid training and were available to the children attending the pre-school service. Four staff held up to date First Aid Responder (FAR) certification.

(2)

(a) The first aid box was safely stored in an easily accessible location on the premises,

(b) The first aid box was readily available in the service at all times.

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.
- (2) The record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection by-
- (a) a parent or guardian of a pre-school child attending or proposing to attend the pre-school service,
 - (b) an employee, and
 - (c) an authorised person.
- (3) A registered provider shall ensure that a record referred to in paragraph (2) is retained for a period of 5 years after its creation
- (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 the fire drills carried out in the service. The last fire drill was recorded as being carried out on 7 September 2023.
- (b) The number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises was available and dated January 3, 2023.
- The fire alarms were serviced on March 21, 2023, and the firefighting equipment was checked in October 2022.
- (2)
- The record was available and open to parents, guardians, employees, and the authorised person.
- (3)
- The person in charge stated that records were retained for a period of 5 years after creation.
- (4)
- A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed on the premises.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

A copy of up-to-date insurance cover for the number of children attending the service was available in the service. The insurance certificate was valid until March 2024.

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 premises appeared to be of sound and stable structure.

(b) The setting was safe and secure with perimeters securely fenced and restricted access at the front door.

An outside fire escape stairs was located to the side of the premises providing an escape route from the upstairs down to the ground and could be accessed through a fire exit door at the end of the hallway.

(c) Lighting was a combination of natural and artificial lighting and indoor lights were protected with shatter proof covers.

Heating was not in use on the day of inspection. Up to date records were maintained of annual heating maintenance and services.

(d) The walls and floors were visibly clean, and the play room walls had been recently repainted

(e) The premises had adequate and suitable sanitary facilities. There were seven toilets and wash basins including staff toilet and a nappy changing facility. The nappy changing unit was well maintained and cleaned after use.

Part IX - Inspection and Enforcement

Regulation 33 – Furnishing of information to agency

A registered provider shall furnish the Agency with such information as the Agency may reasonably require for the purpose of enforcing and executing these Regulations and the information shall be in such form, if any, as may be specified by the Agency.

Compliance Information

The person in charge facilitated the inspection and provided access to information as was required for completion of the inspection.