

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015OY019			
Name of Service:	Mie World			
Address of Service:	Grogan, Ballycumber, Co. Offaly			
Eircode:	R35 XE94			
Name of Registered Provider:	Sinead Cornally			
Service type:	Part Time, Sessional			
Date of Inspection:	21/10/2025			
No of pre-school children:	AM	31	PM	10
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla, Child and Family Agency, SAP Office, St. Loman's Campus, Mullingar, Co Westmeath			
Inspection undertaken by:	C. O' Connor Hughes			
Title:	Early Years Inspector			
Authority to Inspect				
The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(J) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).				
Conditions if applicable	Not applicable.			

Description of service

The service operates on a part time basis Monday to Friday. The service provides an Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme to children aged between 2– 6 years.

The premises consists of a purpose-built single storey building with three pre-school rooms, namely Bally 1, Bally 2 and Bally Midi and an entrance lobby to the service. There is an outdoor play area and a sheltered outdoor section on site. The service is one of a multiple. The service is located in a rural area of Grogan, Ballycumber, Co. Offaly.

Staffing

There are eight adults employed in the service. The designated person in charge and six staff members were working directly with the children on the 21 October 2025. A relief staff member is available as required. The registered provider does not work in this service and 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.

Regulation 8 – Change in Circumstance

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 17 – Information for Parents

Regulation 19- Health, welfare and development of child - (1)(a)(b)

Regulation 22- Food and Drink

Regulation 23- Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

Regulation 24- Checking in and out and record of attendance (1)(3)(a)(b)(4)

Regulation 25- First aid - (1) (2)(a)(b)

Regulation 26 -Fire safety measures - (1)(a)(b)(4)

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.

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.

Compliance Information

The registered submitted a change in circumstance in respect of the change in the company name. This change was accepted by TUSLA registration office on the 22 May 2024.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

- (a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,*
- (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and*

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

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

(4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major

award in Early childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

Compliance Information

(1)(a)

A person in charge was available in the service. A deputy person was available if required.

(b)

The person in charge facilitated the inspection.

Eight staff files were reviewed including the registered provider's. The following was noted:

(2)(a)(b)

Two written validated references were available from past employers or from a source other than a past employer in respect of the staff members. Two written references were available in respect of the registered provider.

(c)

A Garda Vetting disclosure was available in respect of six of the eight staff files reviewed. In respect of six of the eight files reviewed the service demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years. The service did not adhere to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years in respect of two of the eight files reviewed. Please refer to the information outlined under Regulation 23 of this report.

(4)

Staff members working directly with children attending the service and 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 thirty-one children attending the service supervised directly by seven staff members in the morning session.

There were ten children attending on a part time basis supervised directly by three adults in the afternoon.

(8)(a)

Documentation reviewed indicated that two adults are on the premises at all times

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 review of a sample twelve child enrolment records information relating to (a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g)(i) was available in respect of nine children attending the service.

(1)(h)
Nine child enrolment records detailed the children's immunisation information.

(1)(i)
Eleven child enrolment records indicated that written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency was available.

Non-Compliance Information

(1)(h)
In a sample review of twelve child enrolment forms the immunisation records were not available in respect of three children.

(1)(i)

Written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency was not available in respect of one child. It is acknowledged that the form was signed by the parent and was submitted to the Early Years Inspectorate on the 22.10.25.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(1)(h)

All enrolment forms were checked, the three missing were sought from parents and submitted to TUSLA.

(1)(i)

The child's form was signed by the parent of the child in question which was acquired by management and submitted to TUSLA.

Checks per term by compliance coordinator have been added to her list of duties, check of new children have been added to managers role and compliance coordinators' role.

Supporting documentation submitted

Childrens enrolment forms

Summary Comment

The non-compliance has been addressed.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 17 – Information for parents

A registered provider shall ensure that a parent or guardian of a child proposing to attend the service is provided with the information referred to in subparagraphs (a) to (g) of Regulation 16(1).

Compliance Information

A parent handbook with the required information was available for review.

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)

Children were happily engaged in the various play experiences and activities including creative, free play and physical play in the indoor and outdoor environment supported by the staff members. Children enjoyed story time and dancing while playing with musical instruments. Transitions were smooth as notice was given to children to the change in the activity during the morning session. A pictorial daily routine was available for children to recognise the morning events in the pre-school rooms. Aprons were worn to protect children's clothes as they painted their Halloween themed pictures. Children were encouraged to be independent as they washed their hands before lunch and after toileting. Children attending on a part time basis were observed to rest and relax on low level beds after the ECCE session had finished.

Staff members held children in positive regard using their individual names, interacting and conversing with children at eye level. Staff were familiar with each child and their personality. Children settling into the Bally Midi room were settled in a on phased basis for a short period of time per day to allow them to adjust to their new environment. Access and Inclusion plans were in place for children requiring extra support. Good teamwork was observed amongst staff.

The service worked in partnership with parents in the following ways: An introductory meeting was held with parents for children commencing the pre-school in September 2025. Communication with parents is via an electronic application which gives the parents updates and information on their children in real time. The designated person in charge stated that there is an open-door policy in the service. A verbal handover was observed at collection time at 12:00.

The three pre-school rooms were bright with the children's Halloween themed artwork displayed in each room. Children were observed to avail of the areas of interest that included a home area, cosy rest area with books and a

construction area. Age and stage appropriate toys and materials were accessible to children on low level shelving. Low level tables and chairs were noted in the pre-school rooms.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 22 – Food and drink

A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

Parents provide the snack for children attending the ECCE session. The service provided the meal for children attending on a part time basis. A menu was available for review. A refrigerator was located in the kitchen for the storage of perishable good.

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 safe and secure. The front door to the service was locked which ensured no unauthorised access to the children. The inspector signed the visitors book on arrival. The service met the necessary safety requirements in respect of the indoor environment, toys and equipment and the safe storage of cleaning agents with the exception of the non-compliances outlined below.

Infection Control:

The premises was visually clean. All toys and materials were easily cleanable. Warm water, hand paper towels and liquid soap was available in the sanitary accommodation in the service. The temperature of the water recorded at the wash hand basins was 41 degrees Celsius. Windows provided natural ventilation in the pre-school rooms and in the sanitary accommodation.

Administration of Medication:

Temperature reducing medication was available if a child presented with a high temperature. Medication was stored safely inaccessible to children in the service.

Safe Sleep:

Low level beds were available for children to rest and relax. Children attending the service on a part time basis were observed to rest supervised by staff members.

Fire Safety:

The fire emergency exits were free from obstruction in the premises. A fire assembly point was noted to the front of the premises.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. A blind cord was not secured on one of the windows in the Bally 2 pre-school room. Upon request of the Inspector a corrective action was taken by the designated person in charge and the blind cord was secured into the holder.
2. The most recent Garda vetting disclosure presented in respect of two staff members was not dated within the previous three years in adherence with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice 'EYIRN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'. It is acknowledged that the Garda Vetting was submitted to the Early Years Inspectorate on the 23.10.25.

Outing:

3. Risk assessments from outings undertaken by the service were not available for review.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. The blind cord has been fixed. On review, the blind cord was noted on the maintenance records however it was overlooked, review of the maintenance records once every four weeks was added, and a pdf of the maintenance record will be sent every week to head office to ensure all points have been addressed.
2. Garda vetting disclosures for two staff members has been acquired by management. An excel file with all staff vetting has been added to make regular updates easier to review.

Outing:

3. The outings risk assessment has been submitted. The outings policy has been printed and added to the noticeboard in the porch of the service. The policies and procedures have been reviewed and updated.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

Risk assessment and Garda vetting disclosures.

Summary Comment

The non-compliance has been addressed.

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-

(a) no person other than-

(i) pre-school child attending the service,

(ii) a person dropping or collecting such a child,

(iii) an employee, or

(iv) an unpaid worker, can enter the premises without his or her entry being approved by an employee, and

(b) a daily record in writing is kept of the entry on the premises of any such person.

Compliance Information

(1)

The records of arrival and departure reviewed verified that each child attending the service was checked in and out of the service by a staff member.

(3)(a)(b)

A visitor log for the service in respect of (a)(b) was available for review.

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 deputy person in charge and a staff member were qualified in First Aid response (FAR) and available on the premises during the hours of operation.
- (2)(a)
An equipped first aid box was available in an accessible and conspicuous location 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 for the completed monthly fire drills was available on the premises. The last fire drill was recorded as taking place on the 1 October 2025.
- (b)
A record was available demonstrating the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises. The smoke alarms in the premises were serviced on the 16 May 2025. The firefighting equipment were serviced on the 6 November 2024.
- (4)
A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in a conspicuous position in the service.

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.