

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015OY066
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Name of Service:	Mie World
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Address of Service:	Kilbride Gardens, Clara, Co. Offaly
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Eircode:	R35 FF64
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Name of Registered Provider:	Paul Henry, Sinead Cornally
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	11/05/2026
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No of pre-school children:	AM	39	PM	37
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla, Child and Family Agency, SAP Office, St. Loman's Campus, Springfield, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.
Inspection undertaken by:	C.O' Connor Hughes & K. Murphy
Title:	Early Years Inspectors

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).

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Description of service

This full day care service offers sessional, part time and full day care places to children. The age range of children that the service is registered to accommodate is 1 to 6 years of age. The service is part of a multiple operated by private providers.

The Early Years' Service operates out of a purpose-built two storey building. On the ground floor, five pre-school rooms namely the wobbler room, junior toddler room, senior pre-school room, pre-school room and the midi room, two sleep rooms, a kitchen and a reception area/office are provided. The midi room was in operation in the afternoon only. Separated outdoor play areas are attached to the rear of the service. Onsite parking and set down facilities are provided. The service is situated in a residential area in the town of Clara, County Offaly.

Staffing

The registered providers employ twenty staff in the service. One of the registered providers, the person in charge, sixteen childcare staff, a cook and a student were present on the 11 May 2026. One of the registered providers and the person in charge facilitated the inspection and one of the registered providers attended the closing meeting. The other registered provider was not present.

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

Regulation 9- Management and recruitment - (1)(a)(b)(2)(a)(b)(c)(d)(3)(4)

Regulation 11 -Staffing levels - (1)(2)(4)(8)(a)

Regulation 16 – Record in Relation to Pre-School Service

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

Regulation 20 – Facilities for Rest and Play

Regulation 21 – Equipment and Materials

Regulation 23- Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

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

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

Regulation 28 – Insurance

Regulation 32- Complaints (1)(2)(3)

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation

Regulation 19 -Health, Welfare and Development of child -(1)(b)

Regulation 20- Facilities for Rest and Play

Regulation 21 -Equipment and materials

Regulation 23- Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

As a result, the scope of the inspection included the wobbler room, junior toddlers room and the pre-school room.

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

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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 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.

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Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

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

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

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

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

Compliance Information

(1)(a)

The person in charge was present and available in the service throughout the inspection.

(b)

One of the registered providers and the person in charge were on site for the duration of the inspection.

Twenty-two files including the file of both registered providers were reviewed and the following was noted:

(2)(a)(b)

The required number of written validated references were available in respect of twenty files reviewed from past employers or from a source other than a past employer. Two written references were available in respect of both registered providers.

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(c)

A Garda Vetting disclosure was available in respect of the files reviewed.

In respect of twenty one of the twenty-two 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 one of the twenty-two files reviewed. Please refer to the information outlined under regulation 23 of this report.

(d)

Police vetting was available in respect of one adult who had lived outside the state for a period of longer than six consecutive months.

(4)

Staff working directly with children attending the service held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at levels 5 to 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

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

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

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

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

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Compliance Information

- (1)
The minimum ratio of adults to children was maintained during the inspection.
- (2)
There were thirty-nine children attending the service supervised directly by twelve adults in the morning.
There were thirty-seven children present in the afternoon supervised by twelve adults.
- (4)(a)(b)
The adult: child ratio was maintained for children attending on a sessional and full day care basis in the service.
- (8)(a)
The staff roster reviewed indicated that two adults are on the premises during the hours of operation.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service

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

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Compliance Information

(1)

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

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-

(b) appropriate and suitable care practices are in place in the pre-school service, having regard to the number of children attending the service and the nature of their needs.

Compliance Information

(1)(b)

Wobbler room, junior toddlers and pre-school room.

The care practices implemented to support the children's daily routine met the needs of the children attending the service. A menu plan was available for review. The service provides meals and snacks to children attending on a full day care or part time basis. Children enjoyed the pasta, salmon and broccoli dish served for the main meal with milk and water to drink. Children were encouraged to be independent and to feed themselves. Staff assisted children as needed during mealtimes. Younger children were prepared for sleep time by staff and they slept in a quiet restful atmosphere in the wobbler and junior toddler sleep rooms. Children had their nappies changed on a regular basis and as required. Personal care needs were attended to in a caring manner. Spare clothes were available for each child if needed. Children were dressed appropriately in warm coats and all in one suits when going out to play outdoors.

Children were happy and content with their carers. Good communication was observed between staff and children as the staff used individual names, maintained eye contact and conversed with the children during play activities, nappy changing, toileting and mealtimes. Upset children were reassured and comforted in a caring manner by staff. Positive praise was given to children on the completion of activities. An access and inclusion plan was available for children requiring extra support and assistance. Good teamwork was noted amongst staff.

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Children enjoyed the freedom of movement to the outdoor play environment and played happily in the outdoor play area supported by staff. Younger children enjoyed singing songs and various free play activities. Children had the opportunity to choose what activity they wished to participate in. The daily routine and evidence of the Early Childhood Curriculum was displayed.

The child's daily routine including feeding, nappy changing and sleep patterns in the wobbler and junior toddlers' room is shared with parents via an electronic handheld tablet by the staff. Parents of older children have the same access to the two-way communication for updates and information for older children. Staff stated a verbal handover is given to parents at collection time. The child's learning journal depicting the child's play and work activities are shared with parents at the end of the pre-school term.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

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

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

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

(3) A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, shall ensure that-

(a) a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises

Compliance Information

(1)(a)

Suitable toys, materials and play equipment was provided indoors and outdoors which included toys and equipment for construction, tabletop activities, dress up, arts and crafts and home corners.

(b)

Two sleep rooms were available adjacent to the wobbler and junior toddler rooms equipped with thirteen cots.

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Soft furnishings provided the rest areas in the wobbler room, junior toddlers and the pre-school room. Low level beds were available for children over the age of two who required sleep.

(3)(a)

The outdoor play area was located to the rear of the service. The outdoor play area was safe and secure with the perimeter secured by high fencing. An absorbent surface and a tarmac surface were noted. The outdoor play area was separated into areas for older and younger children. A variety of toys and play equipment for use by the children was available that included slides, a playhouse, a tunnel, bicycles and tricycles. A natural wooden structure with a walking plank and two slides was put in place since the last inspection on the 1 May 2024.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 21 – Equipment and materials

A registered provider shall ensure that there is adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment and materials available on the premises of the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

The tables and chairs were child sized suitable to each child's age and development. Equipment was well maintained, durable and easy to clean. Materials were accessible to children on low level open shelving and drawer units. The use of natural materials in the pre-school room was noted.

There was a variety of suitable and sufficient play materials and equipment to support children for various forms of creative, manipulative, imaginary and free play in the indoor and outdoor play environments inspected.

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:

Access to the service is through the reception area of the service. A coded lock system is in place for entrance to the pre-school rooms which ensured no unauthorised access to the service. The Inspector signed the visitors book

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on arrival. Outdoor safety checklists were available for review. The service met the necessary safety requirements in respect of the indoor environment, toys and equipment and the safe storage of cleaning agents.

Infection Control:

The premises were visually clean. All toys and materials were easily cleanable. Cleaning schedules were available and reviewed. Children's soothers were stored hygienically in individual containers in the wobbler room. Children's individual nappies and creams were stored correctly in the sanitary accommodation. Ventilation was available through mechanical and natural ventilation in the pre-school rooms and sanitary accommodation. Foot operated pedal bins were available in the sanitary accommodation and in the pre-school rooms for the hygienic disposal of waste.

Administration of Medication:

Temperature reducing medication was available if a child presented with a high temperature. Medication was stored safely inaccessible to children. No medication was administered during the inspection. Upon review of documentation, it was noted that correct procedures were in place for the administration of medication.

Safe Sleep:

An electronic sleep log noting the colour, breathing and position of sleeping children indicating children were checked every 10 minutes while sleeping was available for review. The environmental temperature recorded was 17.9 degrees Celsius in the wobbler sleep room and 19 degrees Celsius in the junior toddler room by the service's own thermometer.

Fire Safety:

The fire exits were unobstructed in the premises. The fire assembly point is located to the side of the service.

Outing:

The registered provider stated an annual outing takes place from the full day care to the local sister service in Clara. A risk assessment dated 5 July 2025 was available for review.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The most recent Garda vetting disclosure presented in respect of one of the staff members was not dated within the previous three years in adherence with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice 'EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'.

Infection Control:

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1. The nappy changing procedure was not carried out correctly in line with the service's nappy changing procedure displayed which was inadequate for infection control purposes.
 - The child was redressed with the same gloves and apron worn for nappy changing.
 - The inspector had to prompt staff members to wash the child's hands after nappy changing.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

The Garda Vetting disclosure for the staff member identified has now been renewed and an up-to-date Garda Vetting disclosure is on file.

To prevent reoccurrence, the service has implemented a Garda Vetting monitoring system which records the date of each employee's vetting disclosure and renewal due date. The Manager will review the register regularly and initiate renewal applications well in advance of the three-year expiry period to ensure continuous compliance with Tusla Regulatory Notice.

Infection Control:

Following the inspection, a staff meeting was held on 21/5/2026 to review and retrain all staff on the service's Nappy Changing Procedure and Infection Control practices.

To support consistent implementation, the nappy changing procedure has been updated and displayed in a clear visual picture format at all changing stations. Management will carry out ongoing observations and monitoring to ensure procedures are followed correctly and to maintain high standards of infection prevention and control.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

Photographic evidence.

Infection Control

Photographic evidence.

Summary Comment

Evidence submitted and reviewed by the Early Years Inspector met the Regulatory requirement.

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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 rostered to be available on the premises during the hours of operation.
- (2)(a)
First aid boxes were identifiable and readily available in the service.
- (b)
A first aid box was accessible to the adults caring for the 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 firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.*
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.*

Compliance Information

- (1)(a)
Written records for completed fire drills were available on the premises. The last fire drill was recorded as taking place on 30 April 2026.
- (b)
A record was available demonstrating the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises. The firefighting equipment in the premises were serviced in August 2025. The

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smoke alarms in the premises were serviced in March 2026.

- (4)
- A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in conspicuous positions throughout 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 2027.

Part VIII - Notifications and Complaints

Regulation 32 – Complaints

- (1) *A registered provider shall ensure that the complaints policy of the service specifies-*
- (a) the procedure to be followed by a person for the purposes of making a complaint in relation to the service,*
 - (b) the manner in which such a complaint shall be dealt with, and*
 - (c) the procedures for keeping a person who makes such a complaint informed of the manner in which it is being dealt with.*
- (2) *A registered provider shall ensure that-*
- (a) a record in writing is kept of a complaint made to the provider in respect of the pre-school service, and*
 - (b) the complaint is duly dealt with in accordance with the provider's complaints policy.*
- (3) *A record in writing referred to in paragraph (2)(a) shall-*
- (a) include the nature of the complaint and the manner in which the complaint was dealt with, and*
 - (b) be open to inspection on the premises by an authorised person.*

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Compliance Information

(1)

The service's complaints policy was available and reviewed. The relevant details in respect of (a)(b)(c) were noted in the policy.

(2)(a)(b)

Records indicate that the service held information in respect of (a) and (b).

(3)

The records were available for review by the Inspector.