

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

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| <b>TUSLA Identifier:</b> | TU2015WX047 |
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| <b>Name of Service:</b> | Faylinn Education Ltd |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|

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| <b>Address of Service:</b> | Heathermist Farm, Ballinakill, Gorey, Co. Wexford |
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|-----------------|----------|
| <b>Eircode:</b> | Y25 A9P4 |
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| <b>Name of Registered Provider:</b> | Sinead Healy |
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|                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Service type:</b> | Full Day, Part Time, Sessional |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|

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| <b>Date of Inspection:</b> | 11/02/2026 |
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|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| <b>No of pre-school children:</b> | AM | 63 | PM | 45 |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|

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|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b> | Early Years Inspectorate<br>Tusla Child and Family Agency<br>Ely Hospital, Ferrybank, Wexford |
| <b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>                | C. Ryan & M. Bermingham                                                                       |
| <b>Title:</b>                                   | 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). |                |
| <b>Conditions if applicable</b>                                                                                                                                                                        | Not applicable |

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### Description of service

Faylinn Education Ltd. is a privately operated full day-care care service. It offers play based care to children aged 1 to 6 years and operates from Monday to Friday. The service is located in a purpose-built bungalow used solely for the preschool service. It consists of an entrance hall, five playrooms, one outdoor classroom, sleep facilities, a kitchen, office, staff facilities, children's and staff sanitary accommodation. Outside is a large, secure garden and play area to the rear of the premises.

### Staffing

There is a total of 15 staff in the service including the registered provider who is the designated person in charge daily and works with the children. The staff working directly with children in the service held the minimum of level 5, 6 and 8 qualifications in Childcare and Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister 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 child/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

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

Regulation 11 Staffing levels (1) (2),

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Regulation 19 Health, Welfare and development of the child,  
Regulation 23 – Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child,  
Regulation 25 – First Aid,  
Regulation 26 – Fire Safety and  
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 inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, 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, 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)(b)

The registered provider was the designated person in charge of the service on the inspector's arrival. There was a second named staff member available to deputise as needed.

The files for all staff working in the service were reviewed on the day.

(2)(a)(b)

There were validated references for each of the employees kept in each staff member's file.

(c)

Garda vetting disclosures were available for all staff working in the service. The service also demonstrated partial compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to re-new Garda vetting every 3 years. See Regulation 23.

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(d)

Police vetting disclosures were on file for the staff who had lived outside of the state for a period of longer than six months as an adult.

(4)

There were certificates of qualification for the staff members working directly with the preschool children available on file.

### 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.*

#### Compliance Information

(1)(2)

During the inspection, there were an adequate number of staff working directly with the children.

During the morning there were 11 staff caring for 63 children.

During the afternoon there were 9 staff caring for 45 children.

The registered provider was present and available to assist throughout the day.

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### 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)

The following observations and discussions with staff reflected the children's experience within the service on the day of inspection:

There was a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere during snacks and mealtimes, and children were provided with a nutritionally balanced food menu throughout the day. Children in the younger rooms had yoghurt and honey for morning snack while children in the older rooms brought in their own snacks from home containing fruits, vegetables and sandwiches. The lunchtime meal consisted of pork, rice and peppers. Children in the Lavender room used spoons to feed themselves and staff described how they had been encouraging this in recent weeks. Water was made available to children in the Lavender room midway through their meal and then placed on a shelf in the room for children's continued access. Afternoon snack consisted of crackers, bananas and apples.

Transitions throughout the day were managed well. Staff interacted in a manner that was kind and respectful to children, following children's lead and affording freedom of choice and movement. For example, in a busy period after dinner and during nappy changes in the Primrose room, one staff read a story to the children. As the children seemed to disengage the staff followed their cues changing over to action songs to which the children joined in. Children were invited to have their nappy changed and the staff chatted about the child's family and the things that the child likes about going to sleep. Once everybody was ready, children were individually encouraged and supported to settle down for rest and sleep in a calm and relaxed manner.

Throughout the service staff were observed engaged in play and conversations with the children, with moments of fun and laughter heard.

The service consisted of five playrooms inside the premises, all with access to the outdoor environment and one outdoor classroom. The playrooms were equipped with a wide variety of play materials and interest areas, which were suitable for the age and stage of development of the children using them. There were materials and toys such as kitchen/home corners, books, sensory trays, art and crafts, blocks, soft mats, rest areas, magnetic toys, puzzles and jigsaws. Low open shelves allowed children to access materials independently during the day. Children

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were observed in a variety of play during the day which included painting, gluing, story time and outdoor play. Children in the outdoor classroom had access to sheltered area with heaters and were able to access warm drinks as needed during the day.

Children's identity and belonging were fostered through the display of their works of art and their recent learning, birthday walls, family photographs and individual hooks for their coats and bags.

### 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 appropriately secured to prevent an unauthorised person from entering or a child from exiting unsupervised. Cord blinds were secured. Cleaning agents and medication were stored out of children's reach and storage facilities were inaccessible to children. Emergency and fire exits were signposted and unobstructed and staff consistently outlined their understanding of the evacuation procedures and location of the assembly point.

A sample of 10 accident and incident forms were reviewed and were fully completed and signed.

##### Infection Control:

The premises, environment, equipment and materials appeared clean and were maintained in a hygienic condition; completed cleaning checklists were available. There was warm running water, liquid soap and paper towels available, and children were observed to wash their hands before meals and after outside play. Waste was managed appropriately with the use of foot pedal bins.

##### Administration of Medication:

There was an administration of medication policy. The staff discussed with the inspectors the procedure to follow when a child required administration of medication. A sample of 10 medication forms including two individual health care plans were reviewed on the day and were completed in line with the service's policy.

##### Safe Sleep:

Cots, mattresses and stackable beds were well maintained and adequately spaced. Sleep room temperatures were maintained within the required ranges. Cellular blankets were used by younger children and light blankets by older children. Staff described their responsibilities for weekly laundering of bed linen and records verified

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same. Staff described the physical sleep-checks that they carry out on sleeping children in line with national safe-sleep guidance and children sleeping on stackable beds were supervised.

### Non-Compliance Information

#### General Safety:

1. The service did not demonstrate compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to re-new Garda vetting every 3 years. There were Garda vetting disclosures on file for all staff members, however the vetting disclosure for one staff member was not dated within the previous 3 years in adherence to with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda vetting.

#### Infection Control:

2. The practices observed during nappy changing were not carried out consistently, in line with service's nappy changing procedure, posing a risk of contamination. The following was observed:
  - Gloves were not removed before redressing the child.
  - The lid of the nappy bin was opened by hand instead of the foot pedal.
  - Children's hands were not washed after their nappy was changed.
  - Staff did not consistently wash their hands after every nappy change.

### Action submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider submitted the following response:

#### Corrective & Preventive Action

1. The Garda vetting disclosure was applied for prior to the inspection. The disclosure was emailed to the inspectorate. Our IT system has been configured to generate a notification for renewal of Garda vetting.
2. Refresher infection control training has been completed with all staff.

Staff have signed acknowledgment confirming understanding of the correct sequencing requirements.

Nappy changing practice will form part of ongoing supervisory observation to ensure consistency.

Adherence to infection control procedures will be monitored as part of routine governance oversight.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

Garda vetting disclosure.

### Summary Comment

The requirement of the regulation is met.

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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)

There was a person trained in a first aid responder course immediately available to the children attending the preschool service. There was evidence on file that four staff working directly with children were trained in FAR.

(2)(a)(b)

There was a suitably equipped first aid boxes stored in an easily accessible position on the premises which were available to the children attending the preschool 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)

Fire drills were completed monthly. The last fire drill completed was recorded on the 14 January 2026.

(b)

A record was maintained when the firefighting equipment and smoke alarm system were serviced on 2 June 2025 and 10 October 2025, respectively.

(4)

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There was a notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire 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

The service had a valid certificate of insurance for full day care for 81 children.