

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015WX058
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Name of Service:	Jungle Box Childcare Centre FDYS
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Address of Service:	Waterloo Road, Wexford, Co. Wexford
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Eircode:	Y35 PR84
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Name of Registered Provider:	Kieran Donohoe
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Dates of Inspection Day 1:	27/06/2024
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Day 2:	28 /06/ 2024
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No of pre-school children Day 1:	AM	53	PM	48
Day 2:	AM	52	PM	NA

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla Child and Family Agency, Early Years Inspectorate, Ely Hospital, Ferrybank, Wexford
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Inspection undertaken by:	E Mc Garry C Ryan
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Title:	Early Years Inspectors
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Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(J) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
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Description of service

This full day care service is located in the centre of Wexford town. A preschool service is provided to children aged from 0 to 6 years of age. The service is open from Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 5.30pm. The premises is a purpose-built two-story building. There are six preschool rooms in operation in the service. There are toilets, nappy changing facilities, sleep rooms and two outdoor play areas for the use of the children.

Staffing

There are 35 staff employed in the service including a maintenance person, a cleaner and two administration staff. The manager of the service is rostered to work in the service daily and is also available to assist in the rooms as required. There were 27 staff working directly with the children who held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework

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.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under the following regulations:

Regulation 9 Management and recruitment
 Regulation 10 Policies and procedures
 Regulation 11 Staffing levels
 Regulation 15 Record of preschool child,
 Regulation 17 Information for parents,
 Regulation 19 Health, Welfare, and Development of child,
 Regulation 20 Facilities for rest and play,
 Regulation 21 Equipment and Materials,
 Regulation 22 Food and Drink,
 Regulation 23 Safeguarding health, safety, and welfare of child,
 Regulation 25 First aid,
 Regulation 26 Fire Safety,
 Regulation 28 Insurance,
 Regulation 29 Premises.

Inspection findings are documented in the inspection report which is first issued in draft format to the service with an opportunity to respond to any findings. Where statutory requirements are identified as not being met, the registered provider must demonstrate how they have rectified the non-compliance and will prevent any non-compliance from re occurring. The Corrective Action and Preventive Action plan (CAPA) will be used to inform decisions about compliance with regulatory requirements. Where the registered provider fails to meet the statutory requirements an escalation process may be commenced.

The inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including clarity, completeness and compliance with administrative and legal processes.

The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.

Additional Information

Two immediate action notices were issued to the registered provider and manager on the 28 June 2024 in relation to non-compliances found in relation to Regulation 9 management and recruitment and Regulation 25 first aid. It is acknowledged that the manager issued a response on the 3 July 2024 with plans and evidence on how the service proposed to address the immediate actions issued on the second day of the inspection.

Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

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

(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.

(7) A registered provider shall ensure that all employees, unpaid workers and contractors are appropriately supervised and provided with appropriate information, and where necessary training, including in relation to the following:

- (a) the policies, procedures and statements of the service specified in Schedule 5;
- (b) Part VIIA (inserted by section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 (No. 40 of 2013)) of the Act, and
- (c) these Regulations.

Compliance Information

(1)(a)(b)

The manager was the designated person in charge on the day of the inspection and remained in the service for the duration of the inspection. The registered provider arrived later on the day of inspection and was also available to receive feedback at the end of the inspection on the second day.

(2)(a)(b)

Following a discussion with the manager and on review of documentation, it was established that there were 35 staff employed in the service. All 35 staff files were reviewed on the day of inspection. There were 46 written and validated references available on file for staff working in the service.

(c)

There were Garda vetting disclosures available on file in the service for 34 staff members. The service had demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate regulatory notice to renew Garda vetting every 3 years for 20 staff.

(d)

Police vetting was available on file for one staff member who had worked in a state other than Ireland for a period of longer than six consecutive months.

(4)

There were qualifications on file for 27 staff working directly with the preschool children. These staff held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a)(b)

1.

There were 10 staff employed in the service who did not have 2 written and validated references available on file in the service.

2.

There were four staff employed in the service who had one written and validated reference available on file when two are required.

(c)

There was one staff member employed in the service who did not have evidence of Garda vetting in place. It is acknowledged the manager responded following the immediate action notice issued on the second day of inspection with steps to address this issue.

(4)

There was no evidence available to demonstrate the qualification status of four staff who work with the children.

(7)

The inspectors were not assured that staff were provided with appropriate information, training and supervision.

1.
New staff were not provided with an induction when commencing work in the service. A staff member advised that they were not given a copy of the services policies, procedures, and practices.
2.
Staff did not have regular one to one/supervisory meetings with the manager.
3.
Staff advised regular staff meetings were not held. Agendas were not set, and minutes shared with staff as is best practice in meetings in a preschool service.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- 1.2
All required written and validated references are now available on file in the service.
- (c)
A copy of the required Garda vetting is now available on file in the service.
- (4)
The four staff in question have received their results. The certificates will be forwarded to the inspector when received.
- (7)
The service had a board meeting on 26 June 2024. The policies and procedures now in place in the services were updated and passed at the board meeting. Regular 1 to 1 meeting will be held with staff on a regular basis. The service will continue to engage with Better Start the quality and improvement organisation for early years services. The service will ensure all policies and procedures in relation to the induction and ongoing training of staff are adhered to going forward.

Supporting documentation submitted

- 1.2
Copies of all written and required references were received by the inspector.
- (c)
A copy of the required Garda vetting was received by the inspector.
- (4)
No evidence received.
- (7)
No evidence received.

Compliance Information

On day 1 of inspection, there was an adequate number of staff working directly with the preschool children.

During the morning, there were 53 children in the care of 16 staff members.

During the afternoon there were 43 children in the care of 11 staff members.

On day 2 of there was an adequate number of staff working directly with the preschool children.

During the morning, there were 52 children in the care of 16 staff members.

The manager of the service was available on both days of the inspection and was available to assist in the rooms as required.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions received are satisfactory to meet the requirements of The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 once completed. This regulation will be reviewed on the next inspection.

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

There were policies and procedures in place in the service specified in Schedule 5 of these regulations. The policies reviewed for this inspection were the policy on the administration of medication and the policy on the management of accidents and accidents in the service.

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.

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

There was a registration form available in respect of each child enrolled in the service. A sample of 10 forms completed by the parents were reviewed as part of the inspection process and were found to contain all the information required under parts (a) – (i) of this regulation.

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

Staff who spoke to the inspector said that parents were welcome to visit the service, and any questions would be answered by the staff.

Non-Compliance Information

There was no information handbook for parents whose children were attending the service. The service did not proactively provide parents with information as required under regulation. The registered provider is required to provide an outline of the curriculum, the hours of operation, the funding schemes available, contact details, the facilities available within the service, information on the day-to-day requirements and running of the service: healthy eating, medication management, behaviour management, complaints, fire safety and first aid.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The service is in the process of working with the County Childcare Committee on developing an information handbook for parents. The information is currently shared via a mobile phone application and is displayed at the entrance hallway in the service.

Supporting documentation submitted

No evidence received.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions received are satisfactory to meet the requirements of The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 once completed. This regulation will be reviewed on the next inspection.

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.

Children in the baby room were observed playing on the floor on arrival to the service. One child was being held and comforted by a staff member who was sitting on the couch with the baby. Staff were observed to be attentive to the children. They were observed to pick up on cues for care and acted promptly to attend to the babies. For example, children who became upset and needed sleep were put into their cots and comforted until they fell asleep. Staff were knowledgeable on the children's likes, dislikes and routine. Staff shared information on the babies' day with their parents by filling in a note book which went home with the babies every day.

The daily routine was calm and relaxed, with the children transitioning between activities seamlessly. For example, there was a calm atmosphere in the room as children were given choice in whichever activity they wanted to pursue. Children were observed enjoying free play in the room. They were playing with dolls, prams and buggies. The room was resourced with open shelves, homes corners, toys, books and a comfortable seating area. Artwork, birthday walls and family photos were on display.

Children in the toddler room were observed playing in the outdoor area directly beside their preschool. Staff used the opportunity to help the children to enjoy their time outside. There was lots of conversation with the children as the staff were constantly engaged with them.

The staff interactions were positive throughout the two inspection days. Staff were interested and attentive when talking with the children. Staff picked up on cues from children who needed help with toileting and nappy changing was attended to regularly. Behaviour management was incorporated into the daily routine with the use of simple class rules, for example, in the playschool room, the children and staff had developed a class contract. Children had access to two outdoor garden and play areas and staff ensured that children went outside daily, with children from some of the rooms observed playing outside twice. The staff were observed to be attentive with applying sunscreen and ensuring the children wore hats when outside.

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.

Compliance Information

(1)(a)

There were child sized tables and chairs suitable for tabletop activities and snack time. There was sufficient space for children and staff to move around and enjoy various activities and play. Open shelving units allowed children to freely access what they wanted to choose for to play with. There was a variety of toys provided including books, jigsaws, small cars and plastic bricks.

(b)

There were four sleep rooms available with cots and sleep mats for the children provided. There were suitable facilities for the children outdoors during the day. There were three outdoor play areas adjacent to the service. These spaces had been developed to provide a stimulating environment for the children. In the first area across the courtyard there was a large sand pit which was covered with a tent. Staff who spoke to the inspector said the children could play and enjoy the shade from the sun. There was a mud kitchen, playhouse, seating, ride on toys, a large planter with flowers growing and a goal post which was painted on to the wall of the playground. There was a small lean too directly outside the ECCE room where children could play. This area had some seating and plastic bricks for children to play with. The third area was accessed directly from the baby room and toddler room. This area had a soft ground cover, ride on toys and a jungle gym for children to play on.

Non-Compliance Information

(b)

The rest area in the ECCE room was inadequate to meet the needs of the children attending the service. The area consisted of cushions which were situated on a low shelf. Children attending a preschool service are required to have an adequate rest area where they can take a break from activities and relax in the service.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The rest area has been moved and the service continues to engage with an external mentoring service to develop all the rest areas in the service and to ensure all children attending the service have adequate rest areas in each room.

Supporting documentation submitted

No evidence received.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions received are satisfactory to meet the requirements of The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016. This regulation will be reviewed on the next inspection.

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

There was a good supply of art equipment in the ECCE room. The baby room had a supply of age-appropriate toys such as rattles, shaped plastic bricks and story books. The toddler room had a supply of dolls and prams for the children to enjoy imaginative play.

Non-Compliance Information

1.
There was a lack of an enriching learning environment observed by the inspectors in some of the preschool rooms. For example, most of the toys were plastic. There was limited opportunity for messy, sensory, and tactile play. There was no freely available sand and water play in the preschool rooms. The dress up clothes were worn, dolls clothing was worn, interest areas were limited in resources in some of the rooms. There were no natural materials or toys and no open-ended products for imaginative play.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

Messy, sensory and tactile play is now freely available in all preschool rooms. Sand and water play is also now available. New and improved dress up areas are now in place in the service. The service will continue to review the equipment and materials available in the service. Better Start the quality and improvement organisation for preschool services will continue to work with the service.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographs of the play equipment now available in the service was received by the inspector.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions received are satisfactory to meet the requirements of The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016. This regulation will be reviewed on the next inspection.

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

Children were served a platter of fruit during the mid-morning which staff had prepared for them in the service. Children who did not have breakfast before coming into the service are given breakfast on arrival which consisted of cereal or toast. The midday main meal and afternoon snacks were provided by the parents of the children and stored in fridges in the service. The staff reheated dinners supplied by parents. Children in the baby room ate their dinner in an unrushed and relaxed atmosphere. There was a variety of food provided by parents such as beef casserole, vegetables and pasta.

Staff were observed to be kind and responsive to the children ensuring no children were left waiting for their dinner. The inspector observed the children in the toddler room in the afternoon enjoyed a healthy variety of food such as sandwiches, fruit, yogurts and diced fruit. The children were observed sitting together and chatting. The inspector noted the children were given water to drink. It was a warm day and staff were observed encouraging the children to stay hydrated. Water drinks were freely available to the children.

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 was gained through the front reception area. Visitors were observed through the glass front door and gained access when the door was opened by a buzzer system from the front desk. The outdoor areas in the service were safe, suitable and secure. Staff were observed to be vigilant in applying sunscreen to the children before they went out to play.

Infection Control

The service had an infection control policy. Staff were seen to attend to children's personal hygiene during the day. There was warm water to support hand washing, liquid soap, disposable hand towels and foot pedal operated bins provided across the service.

Safe Sleep

The service had four designated sleep rooms. Individual bed linen was available, which was laundered as needed. Staff who spoke with the inspector, were aware of safe sleep practices for example, how often a sleeping child is physically checked, recording of the observations such as colour, position and breathing rate. The staff carried out and recorded physical sleep checks every 10 minutes as per the service policy on safe sleep.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The service did not demonstrate compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate regulatory notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every 3 years. There were 14 staff who did not have their Garda vetting renewed in line with the regulatory notice.
2. All the playrooms had free standing kettles in the rooms. The staff stated these kettles were used to boil water to have hot water to wash up utensils in the sinks in the rooms. The practice of boiling the water posed as a scalding risk to children. The service has a designated kitchen with a dishwasher that was not observed used for washing of utensils.
3. A lamp used in the baby sleep room was accessible to young children. The lamp was located on the ground next to a cot, which posed as a burn risk if a child touched the bulb or choking risk if the child pulled the cord into the cot. The staff stated that they had requested the lamp be secured on a shelf out of reach of the children.
4. There were inconsistencies in the recording of accidents and incidents within the service. Staff practices were not in line with the service's policy. Staff were recording accidents and incidents differently in the individual rooms. For example, some staff recorded accidents/incidents in notebooks, other staff recorded on the service's digital app on the tablet and other staff used an accident and incident log book. Also, there was inconsistencies in the level of details recorded. For example, a review of the logs showed that some records were not signed by parents. Staff who spoke to the inspector were unsure of the service's policy on accident and incidents.
5. There were staff personal belongings stored in many of the children's toilets.
6. Monthly fire drill practices were not in line with the Fire Safety in Pre-Schools 1999 guidance document. The document recommends that fire drills should include a monthly complete evacuation of the children from the premises to a place of safety in the open air. The service only carries out one complete evacuation of the premises per year.

Infection Control:

1. The inspectors were not assured that all the mattresses were suitable and adequately waterproofed to prevent cross infection within a childcare setting.
2. Staff were not disposing of their plastic aprons after each nappy change as is best practice in a preschool setting. Staff kept their own apron on named hooks in the service and reused this apron when changing nappies. This practice posed a risk of cross infection in the service.
3. There were mops and buckets stored in the children's toilets next to the ECCE room. This posed a risk of cross infection in the service.

Administration of Medication:

1. There were inconsistencies in the recording of medication administered in the service. Staff practices were not in line with the service's policy. All medication administered in a pre-school setting requires signed parental consent and two staff signatures, one to administer and one to witness the safe administration of medication. On review of the medication that had been administered in the service, there were different staff practices. For example, signed parental consents were not available on documents reviewed by the inspector. There were not consistently two staff signatures recorded. The digital app on the tablet did not have a facility for staff to co-sign that they witnessed the administration of medication.

Safe Sleep:

1. The lighting in the sleep rooms was not sufficient for staff to clearly observe the sleeping children's colour and breathing pattern. Staff had to use a torch to observe the sleeping children as the rooms were extremely dark. Staff had made attempts to provide ambient lighting with the use of heated wax lamps in one of the sleep rooms which was not suitable for lighting in a childcare setting.
2. There was storage of non-sleep related equipment in the sleep rooms, which posed a risk of cross infection and obstruction for staff observing the sleeping children.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety.

1. All Garda vetting has been renewed and is now in place in the service for all staff working directly with the children.
2. The manager has met with staff to discuss alternative arrangements for washing up plates, cups and cutlery in the service.
3. This lamp is no longer on the ground of the baby room. It is now secured on a high shelf that is inaccessible to the children.
4. All accidents and incidents are now recorded in one book which is kept in the manager's office. The service will ensure staff complete as per the policy and ensure the document is signed by parents following any accident of incident in the service.
5. Staff personal belongings are no longer stored in an area which is accessible to children.
6. A fire drill including the evacuation of all the preschool rooms in the service was carried out on the 18 July 2024.

Infection Control:

1. New waterproof mattresses have been purchased.
2. Staff are now disposing of their plastic aprons after each nappy change.
3. Mops and buckets have been removed from the children's toilets next to the ECCE room.

Administration of Medication

1. All records of administration are now in line with the service's policy. All medication forms are signed by parents and signed by two staff members, one who administers the medication and one to witness the safe administration of the medication. The digital application for the recording of the administration of medication is no longer in use in the service. The service now uses a paper version of the medication forms only.

Safe sleep

1. The lighting in sleep rooms have been reviewed and amended to allow staff to view the sleeping children. Heated wax lamps have been removed from the service.
2. Non sleep related equipment has been removed from the sleep rooms.
Non sleep related equipment has been removed from the sleep rooms.

Supporting documentation submitted

1. All in date Garda vetting has been received by the inspector.
2. No evidence
3. A photograph of the lamp now in position on the shelf in the baby room was received.
4. No evidence
5. A photograph of the cleared area was received by the inspector.
6. No evidence

Infection Control

1. A product description of the new mattresses purchased for the sleep rooms was received by the inspector.
2. A photo of the space where the buckets and mops were previously stored was received by the inspector.

Administration of medication.

No evidence.

Safe Sleep.

1. A photo of the lighting in one of the baby rooms was received by the inspector.
2. No evidence received.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions received are satisfactory to meet the requirements of The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016. This regulation will be reviewed on the next inspection.

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 first aid responder course immediately available to the children attending the preschool service.

(2)(a)(b)

There was a suitably equipped first aid box stored in an easily accessible position on the premises and was available to the children attending the preschool service.

Non-Compliance Information

On review of records in the service the inspector noted there was only one person trained in a first aid responder course in the service. When this person was on annual leave or sick leave there would be no person always trained in a first aid responder course available to the children as is required. It is acknowledged the manager responded following the issuing of an immediate action with plans to address this non-compliance on 3 July 2024.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

Four further staff members completed First Aid Responder courses over the month of September 2024. There are now a total of six staff members trained in a First Aid Responder course available to the children attending the service.

Supporting documentation submitted

No evidence received.

Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions received are satisfactory to meet the requirements of The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

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)

Records of fire drills carried out in five playrooms were reviewed that demonstrated individual rooms were carrying out monthly fire drills.

(1)(b)

A record was maintained of when the firefighting equipment and smoke alarm were serviced in September 2023 and April 2024.

(4)

There was a notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire displayed in a conspicuous position in the hallway of 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 insurance in place to cover the number of children who were present on the day of inspection.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Compliance Information

(e)

The service was well equipped with toilets, wash hand basins and nappy changing facilities for the number of children attending. There were sufficient toilets available for the staff working in the service.

Non-Compliance Information

(d)

1.
There was general wear and tear observed throughout the service. There was chipped paint work evident in many areas of the service.
2.
The registered provider stated that there was no annual maintenance and repair plan in place for the service.
3.
The fabric couches in two rooms downstairs and the leather couch in the baby room were worn and needed to be replaced. The inspectors were not assured there was a cleaning regime in place to regularly clean the fabric on the couches.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1.2

Ongoing maintenance in the service will be addressed following highlighting by the inspectors.

3.

The three couches in the service will be replaced.

Supporting documentation submitted

1.2

No evidence received.

3.

A photograph of three couches was received by the inspector. Two have been replaced and one has been partially covered with a throw.

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Summary Comment

The corrective and preventative actions received are satisfactory to meet the requirements of The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016. This regulation will be reviewed on the next inspection.