

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2016DY014
--------------------------	-------------

<b>Name of Service:</b>	Eden Montessori School
-------------------------	------------------------

<b>Address of Service:</b>	Lakelands, Greenlea Grove, Terenure, Dublin 6W, Co. Dublin
----------------------------	--

<b>Eircode:</b>	D6W C660
-----------------	----------

<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Gillian Deane
-------------------------------------	---------------

<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time
----------------------	---------------------

<b>Date(s) of Inspection:</b>	29/05/2023
-------------------------------	------------

<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	41	PM	30
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	----

<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Carysfort House, Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin.
---	--

<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	L. Magee & M. Redmond
----------------------------------	-----------------------

<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
---------------------------------	----------------

### Description of service

This privately operated service offers full-time, part-time and sessional education and care for children from two years and 8 months to six years of age between 8 am and 6 pm Monday to Friday. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme from 9am to 12:30pm. The service operates from a single storey childcare facility on the grounds of Terenure College Rugby Football Club. There are three preschool rooms and the children have access to two different outdoor areas.

### Staffing

The service employs nine staff including the registered provider. Eight staff members were present on the day of 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. The inspections may also focus on other areas as required.

Compliance was assessed under the following regulations:

Regulation 9 (2) & (4) Management and recruitment

Regulation 11 Staffing levels

Regulation 15 (1) Records of a Preschool Child

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

However, on inspection an additional non-compliance which posed significant risk was identified under Regulation 23- Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child.

These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations within this report.

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

On 12 June 2023, an Immediate Action Notice was sent to the registered provider under Regulation 23- Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child as there was no written parental consent for medical treatment for two children in the event of an emergency. The service addressed this concern on 13 June 2023.

### Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the 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

*(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

(2) Following a review of the service file and a discussion with the person in charge it was confirmed that there were four new employees and one student who had commenced working in the service since the last inspection on the 16 June 2022.

These four files were reviewed on the day of the inspection as evidenced below;

(a) Eight references were available from past employers which were validated in respect of four employees.

(c) Garda vetting was available for all adults.

(d) Police vetting was available for all adults who had lived outside the state for longer than six consecutive months.

(4) There was evidence that three adults working directly with the children had attained at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Framework for Qualifications or a qualification deemed to be equivalent.

## Non-Compliance Information

- (2)  
The registered provider did not take appropriate measures to ensure adults were suitable and competent to work in an early years service as outlined below:
- (a) & (b) A reference from a source other than a past employer was available for one adult but was not validated in respect of this adult. A second validated reference was not available for this adult from either a past employer or a source other than a past employer. This was a non-compliance on the last Inspection dated 16 June 2022.
- (4) There was no evidence that one adult working directly with the children had attained at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Framework for Qualifications or a qualification deemed to be equivalent.

## Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

### Corrective and Preventive Action

- (2) (a&b)  
This adults reference was validated and a second reference was requested. This person no longer is working in the service. All adults going forward will have two validated references. All files are complete with each staff members reference been recorded.
- (4) This adult's qualification was submitted. All files are complete with evidence of all staff's qualifications.

### Supporting documentation submitted

Supporting documentation was submitted and reviewed by the early years inspector.

## Summary Comment

The regulatory requirement has been met and will be reassessed on the next inspection.

### 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) There were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the service in Ranga 2 and Ranga 3 on the day of inspection.

Preschool room	Age of children	Number of children present	Ratio	Number of Adults present	Type of care
Ranga 2	3 years +	14	1:8	2	Full day care
Ranga 3	3 years +	7	1:11	1	Sessional

(8) (a) Two adults were on the premises at all times during this inspection.

#### Non-Compliance Information

(1) There were an inadequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the service in Ranga 1.

(2) On the day of inspection, the minimum ratio of adults to children was not maintained in Ranga 1 during the hours of 10.15 – 11.30am, 11.50 -12.10 pm and 1-2pm.

Preschool room	Age of children	Number of children present	Ratio	Number of Adults present	Type of Care
Ranga 1	3-5 years	20	1:8	2	Full day care

### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

1:8 ratio will be maintained outside the ECCE hours.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

No supporting documentation was submitted.

#### **Summary Comment**

The regulation has been met. This regulation will be reassessed on the next inspection.

### 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) A random sample of records were reviewed for twelve children who were attending the service. The records reviewed contained the following particulars:
- (a) The name and date of birth of each child.
  - (b) The date on which each child first attended the service.
  - (c) The date on which the child ceased to attend the service is recorded.
  - (d) The names, addresses and telephone number of parents were recorded and information where parents can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service were also available.
  - (e) Names and contact details of other adults who were authorised to collect children were available.
  - (f) The documentation available supported the recording of specific illnesses, allergies, disabilities and dietary preferences for children.
  - (g) The name, address and telephone number of each child's general practitioner (GP) was recorded.
  - (h) Parents had indicated which immunisations their children had received.
  - (i) The documentation available supported parental consent for medical treatment in the event of an emergency.

### 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)

Appropriate and suitable care practices were observed on the day of inspection as evidenced below:

All the children were observed enjoying story time while eating their hot meal. Water or milk was provided. Staff encouraged the children's involvement during mealtime. This was observed when the children were encouraged to help hand out their drinks and meals which encouraged positive behaviour and supported a friendly environment. Water was always available to the children in the rooms. The children were supervised using the toilet. The children washed their hands and adults interacted attentively with the children. Suncream was reapplied during the day for the children, and they all were encouraged to wear their sun hats when playing outside.

## 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.*

#### Non-Compliance Information

##### General Safety:

There was no written parental consent for medical treatment for two children in the event of an emergency. On 12 June 2023, an Immediate Action Notice was sent to the registered provider as there was no written parental consent for medical treatment for two children in the event of an emergency. The service addressed this concern on 13 June 2023.

#### Action submitted by the Registered Provider

##### Corrective & Preventive Action

##### General Safety:

The two parents that missed the consent for anti-febrile medication signed the consent. The service will ensure all enrolments forms are complete on registration.

##### Supporting documentation submitted

##### General Safety

Supporting documentation was submitted and reviewed by the early years inspector.

#### Summary Comment

The actions stated by the registered provider address the non-compliance identified. This regulation has been addressed and will be reassessed on the next inspection.