

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2016FL031
Name of Service:	The Nest/Kinsealy Childcare Ltd
Address of Service:	13 Drynam Square, Kinsealy, Co. Dublin
Eircode:	K67 CF72
Name of Registered Provider:	Colm Bowers
Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
Dates of Inspection:	03/04/2024
Date of CAPA Inspection:	23/05/2024

No of pre-school children:	AM	30	PM	30
No of pre-school children:		29		27

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	180-189 Lakeshore Drive, Airside Business Park, Swords, Co Dublin K67 Y5C6
Inspection undertaken by:	AM Coyle & S Taaffe
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).

Conditions if applicable	Click or tap here to enter text.
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Description of service

The Nest/ Kinsealy Childcare Ltd is one of 5 early years services operated by the registered provider in the Dublin area. This service is located on the ground floor of an apartment complex in a residential housing development in Swords, north Dublin. There are 4 care rooms in the service namely the Baby room, the Tweenie room, the Toddler room and the Montessori room. A separate sleep room is located adjacent to the Baby room. The service operates from 7:30am to 6:00pm Monday to Friday and participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE) for eligible children between 9:00am and 12:00 midday daily.

Staffing

The service employs 13 staff members, 10 of whom were present on the day of inspection. A manager is employed in the service who coordinates the day-to-day operations of the service. One staff member was employed in the service to reduce the adult to child ratio and if necessary to work with a child with additional needs, a post which is funded by the Minister as part of the Access and Inclusion Model scheme. A chef was engaged in cooking and catering duties and a cleaner is employed to assist with household chores. The company's marketing manager was present in the service on the morning of inspection and the human resources manager was present on the afternoon of inspection. The registered provider or service manager were not present in the service during the inspection.

Methodology

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of early years services in Ireland. The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 define the duty of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of children and to comply with these regulations. This Act also gives Tusla the authority to assess compliance with the regulations. The purpose of regulation in relation to early years services is to ensure that the care, safety, and well-being of children attending such services is upheld. Inspections of early years services are planned based on the following:

- Previous inspection history
- Any information received in relation to the service

The findings on inspection are based on:

- Information obtained through examination of documentation
- Direct observation
- Discussion with relevant staff

This inspection was unannounced and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9, 11, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, and 29; however, on inspection additional non-compliance which posed a risk was identified under Regulation 20 and 24. 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

An immediate action notice was issued to the registered provider on the day of inspection as the corridor leading from the front hallway to the Tweenie room and onwards to the rear hallway and exit to the garden was cluttered with stackable beds and children's coats, hats, and bags. This posed a risk of obstructing children and adults from exiting the building in the event of an emergency. It is acknowledged that a satisfactory response was received from the registered provider on the 04/04/2024 indicating that the area had been cleared.

The service was referred to the Fire Officer on the 04/04/2024 in relation to fire safety concerns observed on inspection.

The inspection report was issued to the registered provider on the 15/04/2024.

The registered provider submitted the corrective and preventative action plan on the 26/04/2024 following which further information was requested from the registered provider.

The registered provider submitted the updated corrective and preventative action form and additional documentary evidence on the 07/05/2024.

A follow up inspection to review the corrective and preventative action plan was conducted on the 23/05/2024. Following this visit the person in charge of operating the service agreed to the service being referred to the Better Start quality development service.

Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the company's human resources manager, marketing manager, 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.

Compliance Information

(1)(a) The assistant manager was the designated person in charge of the service and there was a named person to deputise as required.

(b) The named person in charge in the absence of the designed person in charge of the service was present and in charge of the service when the inspectors arrived unannounced to the service at 09:00am, the assistant manager arrived in the service shortly afterwards.

The files for 15 staff members including the human resources manager and the marketing manager were reviewed.

(2)(a) &(b)Two validated written references were available for 15 staff members whose files were reviewed.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for the 15 staff members whose files were reviewed. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate regulatory notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every 3 years.

(d) International police vetting was available for 11 staff members who resided outside of the Irish jurisdiction for longer than 6 consecutive months as adults.

(4) Documentary evidence was available to confirm that 13 staff members whose files were reviewed and who may work directly with the children in the service, including the human resources manager and the marketing manager, held an appropriate childcare qualification at Level 5 or higher on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

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) On the day of inspection there was an adequate number of staff members working directly with the children attending the service.

(2) The adult to child ratios were correct in the service when the inspectors arrived unannounced at the service and remained so throughout the inspection.

The following adult to child ratios were observed during the inspection:

- In the Baby room there were 8 children aged 13 months to 17 months being cared for by 2 staff members.
- In the Tweenie room there were 5 children aged 1 year 5 months to 1 year 9 months being cared for by 1 staff member.
- In the Toddler room there were 9 children aged 2 years 1 month to 3 years 2 months being cared for by 3 staff members.
- In the Montessori room there were 8 children aged 3 years 7 months to 4 years 6 months being cared for by 2 staff members.

(8)(a) The registered provider ensured that 2 adults were present in the service at all times. This was confirmed by the staff roster and sign in records.

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 were made on how each child's learning, development and well-being was facilitated within the daily life in the service:

Basic needs:

- On the day of inspection, the service provided all meals and snacks to children attending the service on a full day care basis. Mealtimes were observed to be a social and relaxed experience with staff members chatting and engaging with the children whilst they ate. In the Baby room the staff members sat directly in front of the children whilst they ate chatting to the children and in each room children who were able were gently encouraged to feed themselves with assistance provided by staff members when required.
- Nappy changing occurred at scheduled times throughout the inspection and more regularly as required. Staff interacted warmly with the children throughout the process. Older children accessed the toilet independently with discreet supervision provided as required. The children attending the Baby room,

Tweenie room and Toddler room had bibs placed on them prior to eating and spare clothing provided from home was available as required.

- Staff informed the inspector that the children in the Baby room were placed to sleep in line with their home routine, this was observed in practice on the day of inspection when children were placed to sleep in the sleep room adjacent to the Baby room when they exhibited signs of tiredness. The children attending the Tweenie room were placed to sleep after they had their dinner with some children using cots in the sleep room adjacent to the Baby room whilst other children slept on stackable beds in the Toddler room along with the children attending the Toddler room who required to sleep.
- The children attending the Tweenie room, Toddler room and Montessori room spent time in the outdoor area to the rear of the service during the inspection.

Supporting relationships around children:

- The service uses a digital software programme to communicate with parents in real time regarding the children's play activities, eating, sleeping and toileting throughout the day. Staff members were also observed updating and conversing with parents at children's drop off and collection.
- The staff in the Baby room and the Tweenie room spoke in soft gentle tones providing reassurance and comfort when the children appeared unsure or upset. The staff members positioned themselves close to the children while at the same time giving the children the opportunity to move and explore.
- The children demonstrated that they felt familiar and comfortable in the service and with the staff. The children looked to staff for support or comfort, called staff by name and were familiar with the daily routine.

Physical and material environment:

- The tables and chairs provided in the care rooms were suitable in size for the children to use both for eating their meals and snacks at and for use whilst engaging in tabletop activities. The toys, play equipment and materials were stored on open low-level shelves and were easily accessible to the children.
- The Montessori room was well resourced with a broad range of Montessori equipment, art easels with painting and craft resources, a well-resourced home area including dolls, a range of dolls clothing and children's dress up all of which supported the children's imaginary play, a range of tabletop materials were available for the children to use.

- Throughout the care rooms the children were familiar with their environments and chose the play materials and equipment that they wanted to play with.
- An enclosed outdoor area is available to the rear of the service. The inspectors were informed that the children had access to the upper section of the outdoor play area only where a selection of ride on toys and a wall mounted water wall were available.

Non-Compliance Information

Basic needs:

1. There was a lack of natural and sensory materials in the care rooms in order to facilitate sensorial play experiences or encourage the children's creativity and imagination. For example, sensory type materials such as sand, water, rice or pasta trays were not available to the children attending the Baby room, the Tweenie room or the Montessori room. In the Baby room one treasure basket was available which was stored in an adjoining alcove and therefore out of sight of the children. This treasure basket contained balls of aluminium foil and a plastic bag with feathers; there were insufficient contents in the treasure basket and additionally the barrier properties of the plastic bag significantly reduced the sensorial responses for the children when accessing this material. In the Toddler room dried pasta was stored in a lidded container which required the assistance of an adult to open and therefore was not always accessible to the children.

This non-compliance was observed at the last inspection of the service on the 21/03/2023 and the registered provider stated in the corrective and preventative action plan submitted to the Early Years Inspectorate that natural and sensory materials had been added to the rooms, however this has not been sustained.

2. The Tweenie room was sparsely equipped with play materials and equipment to adequately support child-led play experiences for the children in attendance. This was evidenced in the lack of clearly defined play areas and the small amount of play materials provided which were generally placed randomly in boxes on shelving units. For example, a wooden kitchen was available but supportive play materials were limited to one slice of plastic toast, one purple lid, one purple plate, one blue cup, one small pink plastic pan, one wooden spatula and a dustpan and brush. Furthermore, the remaining toys accessible to the children in this room consisted of five wooden peg puzzles, a small box with trucks and diggers, a small box of

animals and two small boxes of blocks which were inadequate to support play and extend the children's interest, curiosity and learning.

3. There was an over-reliance on plastic toys and supportive equipment in the kitchen area in the Toddler room and a lack of real, natural and textured materials, such as real-life packaging, utensils or pans.
4. There were a limited number of books provided in the Tweenie room and the Toddler room and many of the available books were tattered and torn, some with all pages missing apart from the covers.
5. In the Tweenie room and the Toddler room the children's water bottles were stored on shelves out of most children's reach. This prevented children from taking a drink spontaneously if they desired during the day, without the assistance of a staff member.
6. The family wall that was on display in the Baby room was positioned at too high a level for the children to view. There were no family photographs on display in the Tweenie room or the Toddler room. This does not enable the children to develop a sense of belonging and connectedness in the service and to maintain links with family and home.

Programme of Activities and its Implementation:

7. The inspectors were informed that individualised care plans had not been developed for children who may at times require additional support from staff members when in attendance in the service, taking account of the child's strengths, interests and preferences in order to facilitate meaningful interactions and activities.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective Action

Basic needs:

1. Every room has been created with sensory items, such as sand play, water play for children, and various coloured pasta and rice. Baby room: A treasure basket is set up for an activity that involves exploring naturally textured materials, identifying various textures, addressing the five senses, and recognising sounds. toys with various textures that may be felt and touched.
2. Replaced all of the old, worn-out toys in the Tweenie room with brand-new toys, including kitchen sets and utensils, tea sets, play food, pots and pans. The Tweenie area has now been updated with new toys and tools, and the construction site is re-arranged. The playing areas are now defined and labelled.
3. Things like Natural materials had been added in the toddler room kitchen area, such as a few empty milk cartons, few egg cartons, cereal boxes and much more.

4. The Toddler room and the Tweenie rooms are filled with new books. For easy access, all the books are kept organised and accessible throughout the day in both Tweenie and Toddler rooms near the Books Corner.
5. The Tweenie and Toddler rooms now have a low-level designated shelf for children to access their drinks throughout the day.
6. The family wall in the Baby, Tweenie & Toddler room has been fixed and placed according to the child's eye level and fully updated.

Programme of Activities and its Implementation:

7. Staff in the Montessori room received individual training to make sure they are using a weekly plan. Employees were urged to maximise the chances for child-initiated activities and focus on their planner and daily activities.

Preventive Action

- Manager and assistant manager will make daily checks to make sure all the sensorial materials are available at all the time.
- Manager and assistant manager will make weekly check to make sure the defined areas kept all well maintained. All adequate toys are available for all different age groups.
- The manager or assistant manager will assess the children's needs and report any necessary changes, if any, that take place.
- Manager/Assistant Manager to check the room on a daily basis to ensure that children have access to their drinks, books, family wall and support throughout the day.
- Management will ensure and continue training staff annually and when needed about their weekly planning and Manager/Assistant Manager will check the room on a weekly basis. Staff will engage with Better Start team to work in our curriculum development to make sure the children are having the best meaningful learning experience.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographs of improved interest areas across all of the care rooms.

Photographs of sensory materials available in the care rooms.

Photograph of children's water bottles available to children at their level.

Family wall photographs located at the children’s eye level.

Summary Comment

The evidence submitted by the registered provider in relation to regulation 19 - Health, welfare and development of child has been reviewed and accepted.

23/05/2024: Overall the actions as stated in the corrective and preventative actions have been implemented, the person in charge has agreed to the service being referred to the Better Start quality development agency with a particular emphasis on supporting the improvement of the environment in the Tweenie room.

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-

(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)(b) There were comfortable and suitable areas in each care room for a child to rest or take a break from activities if required.

Non-Compliance Information

(1)(b)

1. There were an insufficient number of cots available in the service. The attendance records indicated and staff members confirmed that 11 children aged between 12 months and 18 months and 2 children aged 1 year 8 months and 1 year 9 months attend the service on the busiest days. There were 7 cots available on the premises; however, 9 cots were required to meet the children’s sleep needs.
2. The floor bed used for a sleeping child aged 1 year 9 months was not fitted with a mattress. This is at variance with national best practice safe sleep guidelines which states that when a floor bed is used for a child aged less than 2 years, it must be fitted with a firm and perfectly fitted mattress at least 6cm in depth, designed to fit the specific floor bed.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective Action

(1)(b)

1. The children sleeping routine was organised by different sleep routine on a daily basis, for example some children taking naps around 9:30-10:00 and the other group of children will have a nap after 12:00 to make sure all the children under two years old who are not ready to move to a cot bed would have a cot available.
2. One of the youngest children under the age of two was seen to be at a significant risk of stress. A risk assessment was completed on April 23, 2024. In a discussion with the parents, it was agreed to try settling the child into a toddler bed.

Preventive Action

To ensure that the cots in the sleep area are available for the younger children, there will be weekly or daily checks.

Supporting documentation submitted

Invoice for the purchase of cots.

Photograph of floor bed with mattress.

Summary Comment

The evidence submitted by the registered provider in relation to regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play has been reviewed and accepted.

23/05/2024: The actions as stated by the registered provider in the corrective and preventative actions have been implemented. The service has 7 cots and 3 cocoon beds available for children aged less than 2 years to sleep on, this is sufficient for the current number of children aged less than 2 years in attendance in the service.

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

The service provides all snacks and meals to the children attending on a full day care. The children who attend the ECCE programme bring their own snack with them from home. All other snacks and meals are prepared on site by the chef, a 3-week menu indicating that a varied and nutritional choice of food is available in the service was on display in the service. Dietary requirements specified by the parents were accommodated, as stated on the menu, and observed in practice during the inspection. The food available on the day of inspection reflected the menu provided and was in keeping with the service's healthy eating policy.

Breakfast of cereal and milk or toast with butter was available to the children who require breakfast up until 9am.

A selection of fresh fruit including banana, chopped grapes and orange slices were provided to the children at 10am.

Spaghetti Bolognese was served for dinner at 11:30 am in the Baby, Tweenie and Toddler room and from 12 midday in the Montessori room.

Hummus with breadsticks was provided for the afternoon snack and homemade vegetable soup with freshly made soda bread was served for tea.

The children attending the Baby room who required formula brought their milk with them from home which was stored in the fridge until required.

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 main entrance door leading into the premises was appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises.
- The kitchen was inaccessible to the children during the inspection.
- Cleaning agents were stored safely out of the reach of children.

Infection Control:

- Liquid soap and single use paper towels were available for hand hygiene at all wash hand basins in the service.
- The premises, play equipment and materials were in a clean condition.
- Pedal operated lidded nappy bins were provided in the sanitary accommodation for the disposal of nappies. This reduced the risk of cross-infection and odour.

Administration of Medication:

- Medication administration forms were available for documentation in the service should they be required. No child was observed having medication administered on the day of inspection.

Safe Sleep:

- Appropriate sheets and blankets were provided for the children's cots.

Fire Safety:

- Documentary evidence was available to confirm that fire drills are completed on a monthly basis in the service.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The milk for use by the children attending the Baby room which was supplied by the children's parents and stored in the fridge in the care room was heated up in a microwave oven in the care room. This is a safety concern due to the risk of uneven distribution of heat and the potential danger of causing a burn to a child's mouth and throat.

2. A trailing flex from an air conditioning unit was accessible to the children at the side of a cot in the sleep room.
3. Three of the four wall mounted boards in the outdoor area were peeling at the corners with rust present on the exposed surface which could cause injury to a child. This non-compliance was observed at the last inspection of the service on the 21/03/2023 and the registered provider stated in the corrective and preventative action plan submitted to the Early Years Inspectorate that the boards in the outdoor area were removed with immediate effect to avoid any injuries, however they remained in place on this inspection.

Infection Control:

4. The inspector was informed by a staff member in the Baby room that there was no means of sterilising soothers, and she placed the soothers under running water to sterilise them. The absence of robust procedures in respect of soother management poses a risk of contamination for the children in attendance.
5. Hand washing practices were observed to be ineffective in the service as evidenced by the following:
 - The children attending the Baby room did not have their hands washed following nappy changing or before they had their morning snack.
 - The children in the Tweenie room were not observed being facilitated to wash their hands before morning snack.
 - Staff members were observed not to wash their hands following nappy changing.

Safe Sleep:

6. In the Baby room children's sleep checks were not recorded in a timely manner. A child was placed to sleep at 10am and the first sleep check was recorded at 10:20am. All sleeping children must be checked every 10 minutes noting their colour, breathing and position from the time they are placed to sleep.
7. A staff member did not remain in the Toddler room at all times when children were sleeping on floor mats after dinner. This posed a risk that children who were awake could leave their mats unsupervised and climb, trip, fall, disrupt the sleep of or cause harm to another child.
8. The sleep plan in place for a child aged 1 year 9 months who was facilitated to sleep on a stackable bed was not sufficiently detailed as it did not incorporate a completed risk assessment before moving the child from a cot to a floor bed. Furthermore, the care plan did not include any supporting evidence to indicate that the child was developmentally ready to move from a cot to a floor bed.

Fire Safety:

1. The designated fire door leading from the Tweenie room to the rear of the premises was locked with no key available. This is a fire safety risk in the event of evacuating the building.
2. The corridor leading from the front hallway to the Tweenie room and onwards to the rear hallway and exit to the garden was cluttered with stackable beds and children's coats, hats and bags. This posed a risk of obstructing children and adults from exiting the building in the event of an emergency.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. Staff members in the baby room received one-on-one training on how to warm milk and feed the infants. Staff members were provided the bottle warmer for warming the bottles.
2. The trailing flex will not be accessible to the children due to the air conditioning unit being moved to the other side of the cot room and not reachable to children.
3. In order to prevent any injuries, the four wall-mounted boards in the outdoor area were immediately removed.

Infection Control:

4. Staff members received individual training on the Soothers policy and the proper sterilisation protocol.
5. Staff members in the Baby Room, Tweenie Room and Toddler Room receive one-on-one training on proper hand washing techniques in accordance with the infection control policy. Children's hands should be washed before and after every meal as well as following a nappy change. When changing nappies, staff members should always wash their hands.

Safe Sleep:

6. Staff members in the baby room received one-on-one training on how to perform sleep checks in accordance with regulations and the Safe Sleep Policy and Procedure. Every 10 minutes they will check each child's position, respiration, and colour.
7. One staff member will be present in the toddler room at all times to check children's colour, breathing and position and reduce unacceptable causes.
8. One child under two was observed to be at a high risk of experiencing stress when climbing into the cot to go to sleep. A Risk Assessment was completed on 23/4/2024 a. Attempting to get the youngest child into a toddler bed was the decision made after a concurrent conversation with the parents.

Fire Safety:

- As requested, the locked door in Tweenie room was immediately replaced. Manager has now installed thumb-turn locks to replace the old locks, enabling access to the emergency exit.
- As requested, Immediate action was taken in regard to the corridor that was blocked with various items and obstructed the emergency exit. All items are now removed from the corridor. Stackable beds were relocated to the corner of the corridor and not obstructing an emergency exit.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photograph of bottle warmer.

Photograph of air conditioning unit repositioned in cot room.

Photograph of outdoor play area indicating that the wall mounted boards have been removed.

Copy of staff training records.

Risk assessment and transitioning from cot to floor bed form for one child.

Photograph of replaced locks on Tweenie room door.

Photograph indicating that corridor had been cleared.

Summary Comment

The evidence submitted by the registered provider in relation to regulation 23 - Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child has been reviewed and accepted.

23/05/2024

It was observed that the corrective and preventative actions as stated by the registered provider had been implemented.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service by an employee or an unpaid worker.

(3) A registered provider shall ensure that-

(a) no person other than-

(i) pre-school child attending the service,

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

(iii) an employee, or

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

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

Compliance Information

(1) The service maintained accurate details of all children in attendance during the inspection. The children were entered as present on attendance records in each care room, noting each child's arrival and departure times.

Non-Compliance Information

(3)(a)(b) A system was not in place to ensure that no person other than the children and their parents or guardians, employees, approved students or authorised visitors could enter the service. The early years inspectors were not requested to record their attendance on the premises or the purpose of their visit.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective Action

(3)(a)(b) Manager and Assistant Manager has placed a visitor's book at the entrance and will make sure anybody visiting the creche will be given a visitors' book to record their attendance.

Preventive Action

Manager and Assistant Manager will make sure that visitor's book is available at all the times throughout the day.

Summary Comment

The actions as stated by the registered provider in relation to Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance have been reviewed and accepted.

23/05/2024:

The Early years inspector was requested to sign in to the visitor's book on arrival to the service, the actions as stated by the registered provider in the corrective and preventative actions have been implemented.

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) A person trained in first aid including first aid responder (FAR) training was immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service as evidenced in the staff roster and the in-date FAR certification provided for inspection.

(2)(a) and (b) The first aid box was suitably equipped and safely stored in readily accessible position on the premises, out of the reach of children.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 26 - Fire safety measures

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of-
- (a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and
 - (b) the number, type and maintenance record of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.

Compliance Information

- (1)(a) A record was maintained of fire drills which had been completed in the service. Fire drills were conducted on a monthly basis in the service. The last fire drill was conducted on the 22/03/2024.
- (b) A record was kept of the number, type and maintenance of the fire extinguishers in the premises. The fire extinguishers were certified as having been serviced on the 30/06/2024.
- (4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were conspicuously displayed in the premises.

Non-Compliance Information

- (b) A record was not kept of the number, type and maintenance of the smoke alarms in the premises. This non-compliance was observed at the last inspection of the service on the 21/03/2023 and remained outstanding at the publication of the report.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective Action

(b) Smoke Alarm. Manager is in process to set up as a separate record keeping of smoke alarm from the rest of the Estate and separate the service. The smoke alarm has been tested as part of the Estate and manager is waiting for the separate report for our premises which may takes up to 3 weeks. Manager is making daily contact with the company to explain the situation.

Preventive Action

Keep making the contact with the company for speedy progress.

Supporting documentation submitted

Emails sent from service to management company requesting a copy of the maintenance certificate of the smoke alarms.

Summary Comment

As the certificate for the maintenance of the smoke alarms has not been received from the registered provider the regulatory requirement for Regulation 26 - Fire safety measures remains outstanding.

23/05/2024.

A record was not available of the number, type and maintenance of the smoke alarms in the premises. The regulatory requirement for regulation 26 - Fire safety measures remains outstanding.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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

- (a) of sound and stable structure,*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*

Compliance Information

(a) The premises appeared of sound and stable structure.

Non-Compliance Information

- (d)
1. The paint on the walls in the Montessori room was extensively chipped with plaster exposed underneath which prevented the walls from being cleaned effectively.
 2. The wire grid cover on the radiator was badly rusted and peeling in the sanitary accommodation adjoining the Toddler room. The surface could not be adequately cleaned as a result.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective Action

- (d)
1. The walls in the Montessori room are now painted.
 2. The wire grid cover on the radiator in the toddler room toilet has now been painted.

Preventive Action

- (d)
1. Manager/Assistant Manager to check the rooms on a regular basis to ensure walls are cleaned and reports any wear and tear that needs to be fixed.
 2. Manager/Assistant Manager to check the rooms on a regular basis to ensure that all the equipment including radiator covers are all in good condition and cleaned.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photograph of Montessori room with walls painted.

Photograph of the wire grid cover on the radiator maintained and painted.

Summary Comment

The evidence submitted by the registered provider in relation to regulation 29 - Premises has been reviewed and accepted.

23/05/2024:

The actions as stated by the registered provider in the corrective and preventative actions have been implemented.