



Name of Service:	Tiny's Day Nursery
Address and contact details of service:	Monaghan Road Castleblayney Monaghan A75 TP40
TUSLA Identifier:	TU2021MN006SA
Type of Service and age profile:	School Age Care for children aged 4 to 12 years old.
Name of Registered Provider:	Lorraine Linton
Inspection Date:	23 October 2023
Previous Inspection Date(s):	Not applicable
Inspectors:	M. McDonnell - Early years inspector A. Bradshaw - Early years inspector Ann Spain - Registration Support Manager
Registration Status:	Registered
Conditions Attached to Registration:	None attached.

Additional Information:	The inspection was triggered following the receipt of information received by the Inspectorate.
Legislation:	Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of School Age Care Services in Ireland, and its role is to promote and monitor the safety and quality of school age care provision in accordance with the following legislation: • The Child and Family Agency Act 2013 Part 12 58 (G). • The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018 (S.I. 575 of 2018). A School Age Care Service is one which caters for children under the age of 15 years enrolled in a school providing primary or post primary education. The service may provide a range of activities that are developmental, educational and recreational in manner, which take place outside of school hours, the primary purpose of which is to care for children where their parents are unavailable. It is the responsibility of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of school age children and the above legislation authorises Tusla to assess compliance with the Regulations.
Inspection Methodology:	The inspection was unannounced to assess compliance with the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018 (S.I. 575 of 2018) and the Child Care Act 1991, Section 58 as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013. The findings on inspection are based on: • Information obtained through examination of documentation • Direct observation • Discussion with relevant staff

	This inspection aims to determine the extent to which service is appropriate for the care, safety and wellbeing of children in accordance with the regulations cited above. 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 corrected the non-compliance and will prevent them 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.
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Description of Service:

Tiny's Day Nursery is located on the outskirts of a small town in an industrial estate in Monaghan. The service is registered to accommodate children aged 4 to 12 years old. The service is registered to open Monday to Friday, with a breakfast club between 7.00am to 9.00am and an after-school club between 1.30pm to 6.30pm. There is also a registered pre-school service in operation which is accommodating children aged 1 to 5 years old.

The service operates from a purpose-built single-storey building. The children are accommodated in one of the main care rooms of the service and separate from the pre-school children. There is an onsite kitchen and sanitary facilities available for children and staff. There is an outdoor area to the front of the service.

Staffing:

The registered provider works in the service in a supernumerary capacity. The registered provider employs seven staff members. Of these, one staff member works in a supernumerary capacity, one staff member works as a cook, and five staff members work directly with the school age children.

Acknowledgements:

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the co-operation of the children, registered provider, person in charge, and staff who were present on the day of the inspection.

Summary of Findings:

The registered provider was found to be compliant in:

- Regulation 8: Vetting disclosures;
- Regulation 9(1)(2)(4): Staffing levels;
- Regulation 10: Policies etc. of a school age service;
- Regulation 11(a): Premises;
- Regulation 12: Insurance;
- Regulation 13(1)(a)(b)(c): Complaints.

The registered provider was found to be non-compliant in:

- Child Care Act 1991, Section 58(g) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013.

Conclusion and follow-up actions:

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive plan, have addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection concerning the Child Care Act 1991, Section 58(g) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013. This will be reviewed on the next inspection.

Regulation 8: Vetting disclosure

Purpose

As the registered provider, you must ensure that an effective management structure is in place, and appropriate people are recruited to ensure the quality and safety of the care provided to the children attending the service.

Core Regulatory Requirements

Does the service have clearly defined governance arrangements and structures?

Regulatory requirement met

(1)(a)(b)(c)(d)

The inspector reviewed the staff files of the registered provider and seven staff members who were involved in working with the school age children. There was a Garda vetting disclosure on file for each staff member and the registered provider. The documentation reviewed demonstrated that police vetting was available for review if required. The 2 references required for the registered provider and the 14 written and validated references required for the 7 staff members were available from a past employer or source other than a previous employer.

(2)

A review of the vetting procedures and start dates for new staff indicated that these procedures were carried out before staff members worked in the service.

Regulation 9: Staffing levels

Purpose

Your service must ensure that an adequate number of staff are available at all times during the provision of services to meet the needs of the children attending. At all times, the number of staff within the service will be appropriate to the needs of children, the type of service and the care provided.

Core Regulatory Requirement

Is there an adequate number of adults working directly with the children at all times?

Regulatory requirement met
(9)(1)(2)(4) Four staff members were caring for 24 school age children during the inspection. The children were facilitated to go into various rooms and were appropriately supervised during the inspection. For example, on the older children's arrival, seven children went to the dining hall with one staff member. At this time, other staff members brought a small group of children outside to play.

Regulation 10: Policies etc of a school age service
Purpose As a registered provider, you must develop, approve, distribute and review policies, procedures and statements in a consistent way. Policies and procedures will standardise your service's approach to implementing best practice and ensuring compliance with the legislation and regulations. Core Regulatory Requirement Are all the policies, procedures, and statements in place for the school aged service?
Regulatory requirement met
The inspector reviewed the complaints and behaviour management policies. The policies contained information as per Schedule 6 of the regulations to support staff in their practice.

Regulation 11: Premises
Purpose As the registered provider, you must ensure that you provide an outdoor area on the premises and that children can access this on a daily basis. If an outdoor area is not provided you must ensure that children can access an outdoor space on a daily basis. Core Regulatory Requirement Is an outdoor area provided to the children on a daily basis?
Regulatory requirement met
11(a) An outdoor space was available at the service. The children were observed playing with a ball and playing

running games in this area. The children also played with large building blocks and were observed playing in the playhouse during the inspection.

Regulation 12: Insurance

Purpose

As a registered provider, you must ensure that the school age service is adequately insured.

Core Regulatory Requirement

Has the service obtained adequate insurance for the type of care and number of children attending the service?

Regulatory requirement met

The service was insured from 13 September 2023 to 27 March 2024 for a maximum of 100 children. On the day of inspection, there were 24 school age children and 32 pre-school children in attendance.

Regulation 13: Complaints

Purpose

As a registered provider, you must be open and responsive to people making complaints about the service. You must develop and implement a complaints management process that is consistent, fair, transparent and impartial.

Core Regulatory Requirement

Has the complaints policy been implemented? If so, is there evidence that the process was consistent, fair, transparent and impartial?"

Regulatory requirement met

(1)(a)(b)(c)

The inspector reviewed the service's complaints policy. The complaints policy detailed the procedure for making a complaint and how verbal and written complaints would be dealt with. The policy referenced how a complainant would be kept informed of the complaints procedure. The appeals process was also detailed in the policy. On the day of inspection staff members informed the inspector that there were no complaints.

Health, Safety and Welfare of children

Child Care Act 1991, Section 58 as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013

Purpose

The protection and welfare of the children in your service is paramount, and the children's safety and wellbeing is the priority. As a registered provider, you must be committed to safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of children in your care, and to providing a safe environment where they can play, learn and develop.

Core Regulatory Requirements

Does the service provide appropriate care and attention in a safe environment and meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements of children?

Regulatory requirement met

During the inspection, the inspectors observed the health, safety and welfare of children being supported by the following:

- The inspectors observed that the facilities and equipment supported children's engagement in play and activities. For example, a child was playing dress up with a doll, different accessories, and equipment was provided for the child to extend their play. The staff spoke about a rotation of equipment to ensure a variety of toys and play equipment were available to the children, depending on their interests and preferences for play activities. The physical space available to the children which included the main care room, a quiet room, the dining/homework area, and an outdoor play area assisted with ensuring that a variety of activities were available to the children under staff supervision. On older children's arrival, they were able to complete their homework in the dining hall which was quieter than the main room where younger children were playing. The children spoke with the inspectors about the activities they liked to complete in the service. These included playing football, doing art, and helping to tidy and clean up after themselves and completing their activities. During the inspection, children were observed completing these activities.
- There appeared to be an established daily routine in place. On the children's arrival to the service, they washed their hands. When older children arrived to the service, the younger group of children played outside. Later, different groups of children were supported to play outside or to go inside in line with their own choice.
- The inspectors observed positive behaviour management throughout the inspection. For example, a staff member intervened in a dispute between a small group of children about toys. They worked with the children to secure a resolution and also got involved in the activity to provide further

support to the children. Staff were also observed to model positive behaviour to the children, with calm being used for requests. Children were observed to be praised for positive behaviour, for example, a child was thanked for saying that dinner was lovely when they returned an empty plate to a staff member. Staff spoke to the inspectors about training in positive behaviour management which was supported by the training and induction documents available.

- During the inspection, the staff appeared familiar with the children in their care and provided them with support where required. For example, on the children's arrival to the service, staff were observed talking with them about their day. During homework, staff took the time to identify what individual children required help with. Meals were finished at individual paces with no rush and a second helping of food was offered to all children in the room.
- Staff members spoke with inspectors about staff meetings, informal discussions about practice, and an induction programme in place. The registered provider had documentation in place to demonstrate a range of meetings and staff support meetings had taken place.

Regulatory requirement not met

1. Staff and children informed the inspectors that the school age children sometimes spend time with younger children in the pre-school service. The registered provider did not have any risk assessments in place to support this arrangement and to mitigate any potential risks associated with the care, welfare and safety of all children.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

1. The registered provider stated in their corrective and preventive action plan that an 'Interactions (After-School & Pre-School children)' policy was created to show the guiding principles and how providing opportunities for mixed ages to play together will be implemented at Tiny's Day Nursery. A copy of this policy was submitted. The registered provider also stated that they have created a risk assessment to avoid any potential risk associated with mixing children of different ages. As a preventive action, the registered provider stated that risk assessments will be carried out on a regular basis and the policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Summary

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive plan, have addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection and will be reviewed on the next inspection.

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