

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015LK148
--------------------------	-------------

Name of Service:	Rogues and Rascals
-------------------------	--------------------

Address of Service:	Ferrybridge, Clarina, Co. Limerick.
----------------------------	-------------------------------------

Eircode:	V94 YK4P
-----------------	----------

Name of Registered Provider:	Margo Foster
-------------------------------------	--------------

Service type:	Childminder
----------------------	-------------

Date of Inspection:	27/06/2023
----------------------------	------------

No of pre-school children:	AM	3	PM	5
-----------------------------------	----	---	----	---

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla Early Years Inspectorate 2 nd floor Estuary House Henry Street Limerick
Inspection undertaken by:	J Ryan
Title:	Early Years Inspector

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

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Description of service

This is a childminding service which commenced operating in 2009. The service provides care and education to preschool children aged 0 to 6 years of age. The service operates from 08.00hrs to 18.00hrs and the setting caters for a maximum of 5 preschool children. The service is located in a domestic dwelling in a rural area. Preschool children have free access to 2 rooms in the house i.e., the kitchen/dining room and sleep room. The service has an outdoor play area located to the rear and side of the premises where children have access to outdoor play equipment.

Staffing

The registered childminder has a QQI Level 5 qualification.

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. The inspections may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9,11,12,15,19,23,25,26 and 28.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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

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

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

Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered childminder 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

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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 registered childminder was the person in charge and a named person to deputise as required was available.

(b) The registered childminder was on the premises when the inspector arrived at the service.

(2)(a) Two written references from past employers were available.

(b) Written and verified references from sources other than past employers were not required.

(c) Garda Vetting disclosures were available for the registered childminder.

(d) Police vetting was not required as no staff member had lived in another state for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months.

(4) The registered childminder had a childcare qualification.

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.

Compliance Information

(1) There were three preschool children present supervised by one adult on the day of the inspection.

A second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge was contactable and available to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 12 - Childminders

(1) A childminder shall ensure that-

- (a) there are no more than 5 pre-school children in his or her care at any given time, including his or her own pre-school children,*
- (b) subject to paragraph (2), there are no more than 2 children under the age of 15 months in his or her care at any given time, including his or her own pre-school children, and*
- (c) there is a working telephone on the premises.*

(2) A childminder may have more than 2 children under the age of 15 months in his or her care at any given time where all such children are siblings of each other.

Compliance Information

- (1) (a) There were 3 pre-school children present at any given time.
- (b) There were no children under the age of 15 months.
- (c) There was a working telephone on the premises.
- (2) Not Applicable as there were no siblings under 15 months of age.

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;*

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

(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) Two records of a preschool child were reviewed on the day and contained the required information.

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) BASIC NEEDS:

The childminding service provided fruit snacks in line with the healthy eating policy of the service for the children attending. There was a fridge available for the storage of perishable foods and drinks prior to their consumption. Dinner consisted of roast chicken pasta and mixed vegetables. Drinking water was freely available and accessible to the children in the kitchen.

The children who were toilet trained toileted independently with assistance given if required. Nappy changing took place for the younger children in line with the nappy change policy.

Hygienic hand washing facilities were available as there was hot water, liquid soap and paper towels accessible at the wash hand basin in the bathroom.

The children could rest as desired throughout the morning on the adult sized couch in the play room. A traditional style cot was available for children under 2 years of age to sleep in.

Children enjoyed freedom of movement within the house and in the outdoors.

The children were supported and encouraged to behave appropriately for their age and stage of development through having simple rules to follow and a wide level of choice of activities. The childminder modelled positive behaviour for the children and the children were praised for their good behaviour.

The childminder was observed to be kind and caring in all her interactions with the children and positive language was used. She was observed to be interested in the children, listened to them and spoke to them using soft tones

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

of voice and positive language, engaging them in conversation and giving each child the opportunity to express themselves.

PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT:

This childminding service was operated from a domestic dwelling in a rural area. The children had access to the kitchen/dining room, sanitary accommodation area and the outdoor play area.

The playroom was well resourced with a wide range of equipment, including real items, natural and sensory material and library corner. Materials were rotated according to the learning needs of children in the group. The outdoor play area was an enclosed, safe, secure area at the rear of the premises with a grass and concrete surface and children were observed playing outdoors.

Suncream was applied to children before they went outdoors to play.

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

Safe Sleep:

There was a written record of the physical checks of children who slept recorded at 10-minute intervals.

Non-Compliance Information

Fire Safety:

An adequate means of smoke detection was not provided in the service. The battery-operated smoke detectors in use in the service are considered inadequate.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Fire Safety:

The registered provider stated that a wired means of smoke detection is being installed in her home.

Summary Comment

The actions as stated by the registered childminder will address this non-compliance. This will be reviewed on next inspection.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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) The childminder held current certification in first aid for children.

(b) The first aid box was available at all times if required for a child.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a) A well-stocked first aid box was not available.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The registered childminder has stated that the first aid box has been restocked.

Supporting documentation submitted

Receipts of purchases.

Summary Comment

The actions as stated by the childminder have addressed the non-compliance.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

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

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the room.

Non-Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) There was no record of fire drills practiced on a monthly basis.
 - (b) An appropriate yearly record was not available of the maintenance of the fire extinguishers. Fire extinguishers were last serviced in July 2021.
- An appropriate record was not available of the smoke detection system as the system in use was battery operated and was not adequate. This non-compliance was documented in the last inspection of the service on 29.06.2021.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- (a) Fire drills will be practiced on a monthly basis.
 - (b) The firefighting equipment has been serviced.
- A smoke detection system is being installed in the childminders home.

Supporting documentation submitted

Copies of service record.

Summary Comment

The actions as stated by the childminder have addressed the non-compliances identified. These actions will be reviewed on next inspection.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

Compliance Information

Adequate insurance was available for the preschool service and had an expiry date of 11/11/2023.