

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DS148
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Name of Service:	Cocoon Childcare Citywest
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Address of Service:	Unit 1&2 Block D Ground Floor, Belfry Square, Citywest, Dublin 24, Co. Dublin
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Name of Registered Provider:	Nicola Battams
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date 1 of Inspection:	25/05/2026
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Date 2 of Inspection:	26/05/2026
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No of pre-school children:	AM	75	PM	60
Day 2	AM	74	PM	62

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Level 7 Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Kilmainham Dublin 8
Inspection undertaken by:	R Phillips E Mulhern
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).

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Description of service

Cocoon Childcare Citywest is one of seventeen childcare services operated by the registered provider. The service provides full day-care, part-time and sessional care and caters for children from 0 to 6 years. The service is registered to operate from 07:30 to 18:30, Monday to Friday. Sessional care is provided from 09:30 to 12:30. The service is located in an urban, residential area of Citywest, South Dublin and operates from a purpose-built ground floor premises in a retail and apartment complex. There are six care rooms in the service. The Baby room caters for children one year and under. The Wobbler room caters for children aged one year. The Toddler room caters for children aged one and two years. The Junior Preschool room caters for children aged two and three years. The ECCE room caters for children aged three to four years and operates on a sessional basis. The Preschool room caters for children aged four to five years. There is a fully enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the building.

Staffing

There are twenty-five staff employed in the service, comprising of an area manager, service manager, deputy person in charge and twenty childcare practitioners, all of whom work directly with the children. There is also a full-time chef and a cleaner employed. The area manager was working directly with the children in the service on both days of inspection. A second area manager attended the second day of inspection; both were present for the closing meeting.

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

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- Direct observation
- Discussion with relevant staff

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

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations:

- 9 (1)(2)(3)(4) Management and recruitment,
- 11(1)(2)(4) Staffing levels,
- 19 (1) (b) Health Welfare and Development of the child,
- 23 Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child,
- 25 First Aid and
- 26 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c) (4) Fire Safety measures.
- 27 Supervision.

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

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation 19(1)(b) and regulation 27. As a result, the scope of the inspection included the Baby and Wobbler rooms on day 1 of inspection.

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.

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Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the area managers, 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*
- (c) there is a clear management structure in the service that identifies the lines of authority and accountability in the service and the specific roles and responsibilities of each employee and unpaid worker.*

(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.*

(3) The procedures specified in paragraph (2) shall be carried out prior to any person being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

(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.

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Compliance Information

(1)

- (a) There was a designated person in charge and named person to deputise as required.
- (b) The person in charge was present when the inspectors arrived unannounced for the inspection. The named person in charge remained on the premises throughout the inspection.
- (c) There was a clear management structure in place. The manager and staff demonstrated an awareness of their roles and lines of authority within the service.

(2) Following discussion with the person in charge it was confirmed that ten new staff commenced employment since the last inspection on 27 September 2024. Full staff files were reviewed in respect of these adults, and one file for an adult employed in maintenance who was present in the service on inspection.

The inspected staff files met regulatory requirements as follows:

(2)(a)(b)

There were written validated references provided from fourteen previous employers and seven reputable sources as required.

(2)(c)

Garda Vetting had been sourced for all adults. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years for all adults employed.

(2)(d)

There were six records of police vetting sought from jurisdictions outside of Ireland for adults who resided there for six consecutive months or more as required.

(4) Nine adults held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 - 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a)(b) (3) Appropriate consideration had not been given to references for one adult. There was only one past employer reference sought and verified for one staff file.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The Branch Manager contacted the previous employer directly and completed a full reference verification in line with the service's recruitment procedures.

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To prevent a recurrence, the Branch Manager will ensure that the correct reference verification form is used for all future recruitment at branch level.

Supporting documentation submitted

The completed reference verification form was attached as evidence of the corrective action taken.

Summary Comment

The actions taken and supporting documentation submitted have been reviewed by the Early Years Inspectorate and deemed to address the noncompliance.

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.

(4) Subject to paragraph (5), where a registered provider contemporaneously provides-

(a) a sessional pre-school service, and

(b) a full day care service or a part-time day care service, or both, the minimum ratio of adults to children applicable for the duration of the sessional pre-school service in respect of the children attending that service shall be the ratio specified in paragraph (3).

(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,

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Compliance Information

(2)(4) On both days of inspection, on the inspector's initial overview of the service, the minimum ratio of adults to children was observed in each care room.

(8)(a) There were more than two adults on the premises at all times of opening according to the roster and throughout the inspection.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) The inspector observed that an adequate number of adults were not available to meet the needs of the children in the Wobbler room between 11:54 and 12:17. The children were displaying signs of overtiredness and therefore required more attention to meet their emotional and sleep needs than the available adults could provide as outlined.

From 11:54 to 11:58 The inspector observed one adult in the Wobbler room attempting to comfort three children simultaneously while the other adults were placing children to sleep in the cot room. The three children were crying loudly.

Another child (Child 4) had been transferred into the Wobbler room from the Toddler room and was sitting on a matted area crying intermittently. At 12:08 a second adult arrived and the first adult took Child 2 to the cot room. At 12:12 another adult was observed sitting with Child 4 in her arms. The adult was unable to provide Child 1 with the comfort required. The child was placed to sleep by another adult at 12:17.

The absence of available staff to comfort children when upset may negatively impact children's emotional wellbeing, sense of security and ability to self-regulate.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The Branch Manager held a meeting with the Wobbler Room team to reinforce the service's needs-led sleep policy and practice.

Staff were reminded that children must be offered opportunities to sleep or rest when they display signs of tiredness, in accordance with their individual needs. This remains the service's usual practice, and the meeting served to reinforce expectations and promote consistent implementation across the team.

The Branch Manager will continue to monitor and support practice within the Wobbler Room to ensure that children's individual sleep needs are consistently met, in line with a needs-led approach. Ongoing monitoring, guidance, and supervision will be provided to ensure that daily routines reflect each child's established sleep

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requirements. Continued monitoring will help to ensure this does not reoccur and that children's individual care needs remain the priority at all times.

Supporting documentation submitted

A Staff meeting agenda and sleep policy signed by 7 staff members was submitted.

Summary Comment

The actions taken and supporting documentation have been reviewed and deemed to address the noncompliance. This 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-

(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

There was drinking water available to the children and the staff were observed encouraging the children to drink at regular intervals.

The adults were observed speaking kindly to the children and were gentle in their approach to provide personal care or assist the children.

Staff assisted the children to remove outer clothing and shoes for sleep and gave soothers and comforters to those who use them.

Non-Compliance Information

19(1)(b)

1. The inspector observed that appropriate practices were not in place to meet the sleep needs of the children in the Wobbler room. There were ten children in attendance aged 13-20 months. The inspector observed that some of the children were displaying signs of overtiredness throughout the morning. It is acknowledged that one child was provided with the opportunity to sleep in a timely manner. However, the other children were only provided with an opportunity to sleep after the main meal. Two of the children were observed to be negatively impacted by this as outlined.

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Child 1: The inspector observed the child displaying signs of overtiredness including crying loudly and clinging to staff from 10:34 The child was placed to sleep at 12:17.

Child 2: The inspector observed the child displaying signs of tiredness including disengaging and repeatedly rubbing eyes and crying from 11:06. This child was not placed to sleep until 12:09.

Failure to facilitate children to sleep according to their needs can impact negatively on their emotional and physical development.

2. Mealtime practices in the Wobbler and Baby rooms did not support the individual needs of children as outlined.

(a) At 11:41 the inspector observed that staff were engaged in tasks including cleaning and preparing children for sleep when one child was still eating the main meal. The inspector observed another child taking a spoonful of her meal. An adult who was engaged in a task beside her gave the meal back to the child but did not change the spoon. The child subsequently poured the meal on herself. When an adult checked the child's dish they stated "Are you finished? You were starving". They removed the child's dish without offering any more.

At 11:47 in the Baby room, the inspector observed two children both one year of age eating their dinner and the staff member who had been feeding one of them, started to clean the room and turned away from the two children and emptied the bin by the sink. One child spooned the remainder of their dinner out onto the table. The adult returned and removed the food and bowl and cleared it away.

This practice was at variance with the services mealtimes policy which stated 'Mealtimes will be used as a learning experience and an opportunity to develop social skills. Staff must ensure to always sit with the children at mealtimes'.

Further information is documented under regulation 27 – Supervision.

(b) One child who staff reported had some food allergies was not provided with a nutritiously balanced alternative at mealtime. While the other children were provided with vegetable curry couscous, the child was just provided with plain couscous. Failure to provide nutritionally balanced meals may impact a child's growth, health and overall wellbeing.

3. The inspector observed an adult remove a wet nappy from a child who attended the Wobbler room and replace it with a dry nappy. The adult did not clean the child before putting on the dry nappy. This practice can result in skin irritation, soreness and discomfort and does not support infection control

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Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1.The Branch Manager met with the staff team to reinforce the importance of implementing a needs-led approach to sleep and ensuring that individual sleep requirements are consistently responded to throughout the day.

The Branch Manager will continue to monitor and support practice within the Wobbler Room to ensure that children's individual sleep needs are consistently met in line with a needs-led approach. Ongoing monitoring, guidance, and supervision will be provided to ensure that daily routines reflect each child's established sleep requirements. Continued monitoring will help ensure this does not reoccur and that children's individual care needs remain the priority at all times.

2.Following the inspection, the Branch Manager reviewed the Supervision Policy with the Baby and Wobbler Room team and reinforced the expectation that educators remain seated with the children throughout mealtimes, in line with the service's usual practice and supervision procedures. Children are encouraged to self-feed, with educators providing support using an additional spoon where required, promoting both independence and responsive care.

The Branch Manager reinforced the importance of slow relational pedagogy, remaining present, actively supervising, and engaging with children during mealtimes.

2b. The Branch Manager also met with the Centre Cook to review the dietary requirements of all children with allergies and the alternative meals provided within the service. Each child's individual dietary needs and approved meal substitutions were discussed to ensure that appropriate alternatives are consistently provided. The Centre Cook demonstrated a clear understanding of the required meal replacements and the importance of ensuring that all alternative meals are balanced, nutritious, and meet each child's individual dietary requirements.

The Branch Manager has implemented ongoing observations and support during mealtimes in the Baby and Wobbler Room to ensure that children are appropriately supervised and that educators remain fully engaged with the children throughout the meal experience. These observations will continue as part of the service's ongoing quality assurance and supervision processes to support consistent practice.

In addition, the Branch Manager has introduced a routine check of all meals before they leave the kitchen to

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verify that they are of the appropriate quality, standard, and suitable for each child's individual dietary requirements. This monitoring process will continue to ensure consistency and compliance with the service's nutritional and food safety standards.

3. Staff were reminded that all children must be cleaned during every nappy change, including when changing a wet nappy, using either water wipes or cotton wool and water, in line with the service's hygiene procedures. The Nappy Changing Policy was reviewed in detail at a staff meeting following the inspection. The Operations Manager provided a practical demonstration of the correct nappy changing procedure, reinforcing the required standards of hygiene and infection prevention. Each educator subsequently demonstrated the nappy changing procedure and was observed by management to ensure that practice was fully aligned with the service's policy and procedures.

The Branch Manager has implemented ongoing observations of nappy changing practices within the junior rooms to monitor compliance with the service's Nappy Changing Policy and to ensure that procedures are being consistently implemented. These observations have confirmed that nappy changing is being carried out in accordance with the service's policy and hygiene procedures. Ongoing monitoring, support, and supervision will continue as part of the service's quality assurance processes to reinforce good practice and maintain consistent standards of care.

Supporting documentation submitted

A Meeting Training attendance sheet, signed by staff.

A copy of each of the services policies on:

Nappy Changing, Handwashing, Infection Control, Infant sleep, Allergen Management and Supervision were submitted.

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Summary Comment

The actions taken and supporting documentation submitted have been reviewed by the Early Years Inspectorate and deemed to address the non-compliances. These will be reviewed on the next inspection.

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 entrance door to the service was adequately secured to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised.

All toys examined were in good condition and equipment was suitable, age appropriate and in good working order.

The outdoor area was enclosed, with soft fall material covering the ground.

Infection Control:

There was thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid soap and paper towels available in the sanitary areas and nappy changing rooms for handwashing.

There was personal protective equipment available for staff to undertake nappy changing and assist children with toileting or personal care.

There was cleaning schedules maintained and a cleaner present for part of the inspection.

Administration of Medication:

Medicines were stored in their own packaging safely out of reach of children.

The medicines were observed to be in date.

The care plans available for children who may require medication in an emergency, were observed to have all the pertinent information to provide their safe care, including the signs and symptoms to look out for and steps to take in case of an emergency.

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One child was observed having temperature reducing medication on day 1 of inspection. The staff demonstrated safe administration of the medicine, a second staff member witnessed the procedure, and they both signed the completed record.

Safe Sleep:

The children in the rooms sampled were observed to be facilitated to sleep in cots.

Children were physically monitored while sleeping and sleep checks were carried out and documented every 10 minutes or more frequently.

Fire Safety:

Fire exits were clearly signposted and unobstructed throughout the service.

Fire action signs were displayed in prominent positions throughout the building.

Outing:

The service manager stated that the service does not take the children on outings.

Non-Compliance Information

Infection Control:

1. Inadequate systems in place for sterilising mouthed toys:

There was a sterilisation box in the Baby room and Wobbler room.

There was an inadequate system in place to sanitise mouthed toys in these rooms.

- The inspectors witnessed toys being mouthed by children and not being taken out of circulation after children mouthed them.

This practice of allowing the children to mouth toys that have been in other children's mouths, without cleaning or sterilising them, increases the risk of spread of infection, which can negatively impact on children's health.

2. Inadequate Nappy Changing practices:

Inspectors observed that children's nappies were changed in a manner that posed a risk of cross infection as outlined below. All these observations were at variance with the service's documented nappy changing procedure.

- Adults and children's hands were not consistently washed after nappy changes. When handwashing did occur, this was inadequate as soap was sometimes not used. Children and adults were also observed pushing paper towels used for drying their hands into the bin containing used nappies.

- Adults did not consistently remove gloves after removing nappies and were observed re dressing children and handling items within the changing room with the same gloves on. This poses a risk of cross contamination.
- The staff did not use the nappy bags provided to dispose of the nappies or wipes used, and these were placed beside the changing mat on the counter before being pushed into the nappy changing bin, using their hands rather than the foot operated pedal. Of the nappy changes observed, when staff wiped the changing mat after nappy changes, they did not wipe the area of the counter where the soiled nappies and wipes had been left each time.

3. Inadequate Handwashing practices:

- The children's hands were not washed before eating their snack or dinner in the Baby room on day 1 of the inspection. This poses a risk of cross contamination and a risk to the children's health. This was in contravention to the services infection control policy. The handwashing policy of the service includes before eating as a time when hands must be washed.
- The adults did not wash their hands before feeding the children in the Baby room on day 1 of the inspection. One of whom had not washed their hands after changing the child's nappy prior to feeding them their dinner. This is also in contravention to the services infection control policy and puts the children at risk of cross contamination and spread of infection.

This regulation was non-compliant on two previous inspections dated 23 May 2022 and 5 July 2023. The corrective and preventive actions submitted by the registered provider following those inspections had not been effective in preventing the non-compliance.

4. Inadequate cleaning of sheets and mattresses between uses by different children:

It is acknowledged that the sheets were changed on the cots in the cot room adjacent to the Baby room between use by some children. However, the services infant sleep policy states staff should "Ensure that the child's own mattress and bed linen are on the cot".

- The inspector observed that the cot sheets were not changed for two children. Each being placed into a cot to sleep after another child had been observed to sleep there. The inspector did not observe the mattresses being cleaned between use..

Cleaning of the mattresses and changing the linen is recommended by the HSE and HPSC guidelines for prevention of infection in childcare settings.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

Infection Control:

1. Staff have been reminded that any toy that has been mouthed by a child must be placed in the sterilising solution for the required contact time of 30 minutes before being removed and left to air dry.

Following the inspection, the Branch Manager reviewed the Sterilisation Policy with the Baby and Wobbler Room team. The staff meeting included a refresher on the procedures for cleaning and sterilising toys, when toys must be sterilised, and the importance of adhering to these practices to minimise the risk of cross-infection and maintain a safe, hygienic environment for children.

The Branch Manager is undertaking ongoing monitoring of toy sterilisation practices in each room to ensure that the service's Sterilisation Policy is consistently implemented. Regular observations and supervision are being carried out to verify that mouthed toys are sterilised in accordance with the required procedures and contact times. This monitoring will continue as part of the service's quality assurance processes to support consistent infection prevention and control practices across the service.

2.The Nappy Changing Policy was reviewed in detail at a staff meeting following the inspection. The Operations Manager provided a practical demonstration of the correct nappy changing procedure, reinforcing the required standards of hygiene and infection prevention. Each educator subsequently demonstrated the nappy changing procedure and was observed by management to ensure that practice was fully aligned with the service's policy and procedures.

The Branch Manager has implemented ongoing observations of nappy changing practices within the junior rooms to monitor compliance with the service's Nappy Changing Policy and to ensure that procedures are being consistently implemented. These observations have confirmed that nappy changing is being carried out in accordance with the service's policy and hygiene procedures. Ongoing monitoring, support, and supervision will continue as part of the service's quality assurance processes to reinforce good practice and maintain consistent standards of care.

3.The Branch Manager reviewed the Handwashing Policy with the staff team, reinforcing the importance of effective handwashing in reducing the risk of cross-infection.

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Staff were reminded that all children must wash their hands after nappy changes and immediately before eating. It was further reinforced that if a child washes their hands and then spends time playing on the floor or engaging in activities before their meal, their hands must be washed again immediately prior to eating to ensure appropriate hygiene standards are maintained.

Staff were reminded that hand hygiene must be carried out consistently after each nappy change and before assisting with mealtimes. It was further reinforced that the use of gloves does not replace the requirement for effective handwashing, and that appropriate hand hygiene must be completed before and after glove use in line with infection prevention and control procedures.

All staff were reminded of these requirements and have demonstrated understanding of the importance of maintaining high standards of hand hygiene at all times to reduce the risk of cross-contamination.

The Branch Manager is carrying out ongoing spot checks on hand hygiene practices across all rooms to ensure consistent adherence to the service's Handwashing Policy. These checks are used to monitor compliance with correct handwashing procedures for both staff and children, particularly in relation to key times such as nappy changes and mealtimes.

This ongoing monitoring will continue as part of the service's quality assurance procedures to ensure that hand hygiene standards are consistently maintained at all times.

3. The Branch Manager reviewed sleep room procedures with the staff team to reinforce correct practice and ensure consistent adherence to infection prevention and cross-contamination controls.

The Branch Manager has purchased additional individual bags for each child and ensured that sufficient spare bed linen is available at all times. These measures have been put in place to support consistency of practice and to minimise the risk of recurrence.

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Supporting documentation submitted

Infection Control:

- A Staff meeting agenda and signed sterilising policy attached.
- A Staff meeting agenda and signed handwashing policy attached.
- A Photo of children's individually stored bedlinen and extra bedlinen.

Summary Comment

The actions taken and supporting documentation has been reviewed and deemed to address the noncompliance. These practices 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) It was confirmed by review of staff files, and discussion with the registered provider that five staff including the service manager, and one area manager who was on the roster held in date First Aid Responder (FAR) training certificates. The roster evidenced that one or more were available to the children at all times of opening.
- (2)(a) Adequately equipped first aid boxes were safely stored in conspicuous locations that were easily accessible throughout the service.
- (b) The first aid boxes were available to the children in the service at all times.

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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.*
- (2) The record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection by-*
- (c) an authorised person.*
- (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)

There was evidence of regular fire drills having taken place within the service. The last fire drill took place on 21 April 2026.

(b)

There was a maintenance record of the firefighting equipment and smoke detection system in the premises dated 22 July 2025 and 18 February 2026 respectively.

(2)(c) The records were made available to the inspector.

(4)

There was a notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire, displayed within the care rooms and the main hallway of the service.

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Part VI - Safety

Regulation 27 – Supervision

A registered provider shall ensure that pre-school children attending the service are supervised at all times.

Non-Compliance Information

Children were not appropriately supervised when eating as follows :

At 10:34 the inspector observed a child aged 1 year in the Wobbler room sitting at a table on her own eating a rice cake. The two adults in the room had their backs to the child doing 'Circle Time' with the other children. The child then walked around the room eating the rice cake.

At 11:41 the inspector observed one child aged 1 year in the Wobbler room sitting at a table on her own eating the main meal when the other children had finished.

At 11:47 in the Baby room, the inspector observed two children both one year of age eating their dinner and the staff member who had been feeding one of them, turned away from them and did not adequately supervise them.

In the incidents described above the adults were engaged in tasks including cleaning and preparing the other children for sleep. Further information regarding this is outlined under regulation 19(1)(b), 2. (a).

Failure to adequately supervise young children when eating can place them at an increased risk of choking and hamper their ability to develop positive eating habits.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The Branch Manager reviewed the Supervision Policy with the Baby and Wobbler Room team and reinforced the expectation that educators remain seated with the children throughout mealtimes, in line with the service's practice and supervision procedures. Children are encouraged to self-feed, with educators providing support using an additional spoon where required, promoting both independence and responsive care.

The Branch Manager reinforced the importance of slow relational pedagogy, remaining present, actively supervising, and engaging with children during mealtimes.

The Branch Manager has implemented ongoing observations and support during mealtimes in the Baby and Wobbler Room to ensure that children are appropriately supervised and that educators remain fully engaged with the children throughout the meal experience. These observations will continue as part of the service's ongoing quality assurance and supervision processes to support consistent practice.

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Supporting documentation submitted

A meeting agenda and supervision policy were submitted.

Summary Comment

The actions taken and supporting documentation submitted have been reviewed by the Early Years Inspectorate and deemed to address the noncompliance This will be reviewed on the next inspection.