TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DS157
Name of Service:	Cappaghmore Playschool
Address of Service:	58 Cappaghmore, Clondalkin, Dublin 22
Email Address:	Playschool58@gmail.com
Name of Registered Service Provider:	Karen Ryan

Type of Service Registered:	**Sessional**	✓

Date of Inspection:	**1**	**3**	**1**	**2**	**2**	**0**	**2**	**1**

No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection:	**AM**	14	**PM**	n/a

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate Tusla Child and Family Agency The Brunel Building Heuston South Quarter St. John's Road West Dublin 8 D08 X01F

Inspection undertaken by:	**E. Mulhern**
Title:	**Early Years Inspector**

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection		
Governance	**Health Welfare and Development of Child**	**Safety**

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

Description of Service	Cappaghmore Playschool provides the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme to children aged 2 to 5 years. The service is open from 9am to 12pm and is registered to accommodate 16 children.
Premises	The service operates from the ground floor of the provider's home. An outdoor area is available to the rear.
Staffing	Three adults are employed to work in the service including the provider.
Methodology	Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate (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. 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 areas of Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of Child and Safety. Inspections may also focus on other areas as required. The inspection process has been amended to minimise the amount of time that inspectors spend in the service. A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation 19 health welfare and development of child and regulation 23 Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child. 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.
Acknowledgements	The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

GOVERNANCE

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 service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required. (b) Either the named person in charge or deputy were on the premises at all times during the inspection. (2) & (4) No new adults had been employed since the last inspection. Staff records were reviewed at that time and met the requirements.

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. *(3) Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 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)—* *(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.*	
Compliance Information:	(1) An adequate number of adults were working with the children at all times. (3) The minimum ratio of adults to children was maintained. Two staff worked directly with fourteen children. (8)(c) Not applicable as the person in charge does not operate the service single-handedly.

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*	
Compliance Information:	Examples of measures taken to meet the learning, development and well-being of children: **BASIC NEEDS:** • The children appeared to be content and were engaged in play. • Children brought food from home including sandwiches, yoghurts and fruit. Drinks of water were available. • Children were supported to use the toilet with an appropriate balance of independence and supervision. • The children spent time outdoors and were dressed in warm coats and hats appropriate to the weather. **SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AROUND CHILDREN** • The adults spoke kindly and respectfully to children and each other at all times. • The service showed positive regard for children's parents and guardians, using e-mail and a messaging app to exchange information. **PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT:** • The service was bright and well maintained with lots of natural light. • Age-appropriate toys and materials were available to support learning and play. • Tables and chairs were provided for table-top activities and lunch.
Non-Compliance Information:	**Physical and Material Environment**

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service	
Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child	
	A comfortable area was not available for children to rest or take a break from activities.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	**CORRECTIVE ACTION** A new cosy/rest corner has been added to Cappaghmore Playschool. **PREVENTIVE ACTION** No preventive action submitted.
Summary Comment:	A photograph of a small area with cushions was submitted. The appropriateness of this for the number of children in attendance will be assessed 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:	**Examples of measures taken to safeguard health, safety and welfare:** **GENERAL SAFETY** • Entrances and exits were secured to prevent unauthorised access or children exiting unsupervised • Emergency exits were kept clear • Cleaning products were stored out of reach of children **INFECTION CONTROL:** • The premises were clean and well maintained. • Children washed their hands after using the toilet and before eating. Staff were able to identify all the times when handwashing is required. • Staff demonstrated a good understanding of public health guidelines. Appropriate measures were taken to prevent and control the spread of Covid-19 within the service.

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 available detailing fire-drills carried out in the service. The most recent fire-drill was dated 3 December 2021. (b) A record was available showing the number and type of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the service. Records showed that maintenance was carried out on the firefighting equipment in December 2020. (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in a conspicuous position.
Non-Compliance Information:	(b) A record was not available detailing the maintenance of the smoke detection system.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	**CORRECTIVE ACTION** A certified company has carried out a full inspection of the system and a certificate of servicing/testing has been issued to Cappaghmore Playschool. **PREVENTIVE ACTION** No preventive action submitted.
Summary Comment:	A copy of the certificate detailing the maintenance of the fire alarm system dated 3 February 2022 was submitted. The non-compliance has been deemed to be addressed.