

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier: TU2015DS179

Name of Service: Tallaght Childcare Fettercairn

Address of Service: Fettercairn Community & Youth Centre
Fettercairn
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Email Address: lizjackson@tallaghtchildcarecentre.ie

Name of Registered Service Provider: Liz Jackson

Type of Service Registered: Full Day Care ☒

Date(s) of Inspection: 0 9 0 6 2 0 2 2

No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection: AM 18 PM 17

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Early Years Inspectorate
Tusla Child and Family Agency
Loughlinstown Health Centre
Loughlinstown Drive
Loughlinstown
County Dublin

Inspection undertaken by: Olivia Quill
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 Non-Applicable

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Description of Service	Tallaght Childcare Fettercairn is one of two community-based services operated by Tallaght Childcare. The service is registered to provide full day care. Morning and afternoon part-time care as well as a sessional Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme are offered from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. The service caters for children aged 2- 6 years and operates Monday to Friday from 08.30am to 5.00pm.
Premises	The early years service is located in Fettercairn Community Centre in a single storey premises. The service comprises of an open plan pre-school room with a kitchenette, sanitary accommodation, staff room and office. An outdoor play area is available to the rear of the service. The service has access to the indoor community hall.
Staffing	On the 9 June 2022 six adults were present. Five adults including the designated person in charge worked directly with the children. The sixth adult was employed under a TUS scheme as a domestic worker.
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. 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. 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 person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

GOVERNANCE

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 - Management and Recruitment

- (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:

One adult had been recruited to work directly with the children since the last inspection on the 30 October 2020. The Staff file for this adult was reviewed.

(2)

- (a) Two validated references were available from previous employers.
- (b) Not applicable, the references provided were from previous employers.
- (c) A garda vetting disclosure from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána was available.
- (d) Not applicable, the adult employed had not resided outside the State for a period longer than six consecutive months.

(4) Evidence was provided to demonstrate the adult had attained a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 on the National Framework for Qualifications.

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) There were eighteen pre-school children attending the service being supervised by five adults.
- (2) The minimum ratio of adults to children was maintained at all times during the inspection.
- (8) (a) There were at least two adults present on the premises and at all times during the hours of operation as per the staff roster.

HEALTH WELFARE & DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD

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:

(1)(a)

Basic Needs:

Suitable and varied food was provided for the children. Breakfast consisted of a choice of cereals, toast, sliced banana and raisins was served for mid-morning snack, lunch consisted of rice, chicken and broccoli. A four weekly menu plan was in place. Suitable cutlery was provided. Children were offered milk or water with their snack and lunch. Mealtime was sociable; staff sat with the children, engaged in conversation and assisted them as required. Some children requested additional servings and this was provided by staff. Children's independence was encouraged, and a daily 'helper' board was in place where named children would help with specific activities. The staff demonstrated good awareness of the needs of each child in their care and reflected this during individual interactions throughout the day. Children went to the toilet independently while be closely supervised.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

Physical and Material Environment

The children had access to one large, open plan room which was divided into areas of interest enabling freedom to play and explore. Examples included home corner, dress up, messy play with sand and paint, construction area, arts and crafts, tabletop activities and rest areas. All interest areas were well resourced with suitable props and equipment. The materials were observed to be easily accessible to the children on low level shelving, facilitating their choice of play. Throughout the morning children were freely accessing each interest area and were observed to be immersed in their play partaking in dress up, painting, sand play, playing in the home corner, and doing tabletop activities. Child sized tables and chairs were provided in the service as appropriate to the children's ages and stages of development. All children spent time outdoors. Staff helped children to dress appropriate to the weather coats and wellington boots were put on prior to children going out 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:

General Safety:

External doors were secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises. A bell system was in place on the main door to access the premises. Cleaning agents and medication were stored safely out of the reach of children. Toys used by the children were in good working order.

Infection Control:

The environment was clean and cleaning schedules were maintained. Thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid soap and disposable paper hand towels were provided for hand hygiene at wash hand basins in the sanitary areas. Pedal operated bins were available for the disposal of waste. Children were supervised washing their hands after outdoor play and prior to eating. Staff practiced good hand hygiene and assisted children were good personal hygiene. Children were given individual face cloths after mealtime to clean their faces.

Administration of Medication:

The service had an Administration of Medication Policy and Temperature reducing medication was available and stored safely. Parental consent and a medication record form was available if required.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 23 - Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child

Non-Compliance Information:	Fire Safety 1. Monthly fire drills had not been conducted. The last fire drill recorded was carried out on the 29 March 2022 posing a risk to the safe evacuation of the children in the event of a fire on the premises. Infection Control 2. The nappy changing mat was unsuitably stored on the floor in the sanitary area and the cover was torn posing an infection control risk as it could not be cleaned effectively. 3. The cover on the adult size sofa was ripped posing a risk that it could not be cleaned effectively for infection control purposes.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	<u>Corrective Action</u> Fire Safety 1. Monthly fire drills had been carried out but not updated on the register. Management have issued a new fire drill logbook moving forward and past fire drills have been updated on the register. Infection control 2. New nappy mats were purchased and are stored in a cupboard off the floor in a clean and hygienic manner. 3. A washable cover was purchased and is in use. <u>Preventive Action</u> Fire Safety 1. The fire drill record book will be checked by member of the management team to sure the documentation of the drill has been noted. Infection control 2. Nappy mats will be replaced if they are torn or ripped. We have replacement mats kept in the service at all times. 3. Cover is washed weekly or if there has been any accidents/spillages etc. <u>Supporting documentation submitted</u> Written evidence submitted by the registered provider was reviewed by the inspector.
Summary Comment:	Supporting evidence was submitted by the registered provider in keeping with the actions stated. The regulatory requirement has been met. Practice will be reviewed on 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) A person trained in first aid for children was, at all times, immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service.
- (2)
- (a) The first aid box was easily accessible and stored in a conspicuous position on the premises.
 - (b) A first aid box was readily available at all times in 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 written record was available of the fire drills. The last fire drill was recorded as being carried out on 29 March 2022.
 - (b) The number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms was available and dated the 10 August 2021 and the 25 May 2022.
- (4) The procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in conspicuous positions in the premises.