

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DS179
Name of Service:	Tallaght Childcare Fettercairn
Address of Service:	Fettercairn Community and youth centre Fettercairn Tallaght, Dublin 24. D24W92N.
Email Address:	lizjackson@tallaghtchildcarecentre.ie

Name of Registered Service Provider:	Liz Jackson
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Type of service registered:	Full Day Care ☒
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Date(s) of Inspection:	3	0	1	0	2	0	2	0
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No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection:	AM	10	PM	7
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla Child and Family Agency, Loughlinstown Health Centre, Loughlinstown Drive, Loughlinstown, Co Dublin.
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Inspection undertaken by :	O Quill
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection		
Governance	Health, Welfare and Development	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
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Description of Service	Tallaght Childcare Fettercairn took over the operation of an existing childcare facility in July 2017. It is one of two community based full day care services operated by Tallaght Childcare. The service caters for pre-school children aged from 2 years to 5 years and operates Monday to Friday from 08.30am to 5.30pm. The service is registered to provide full day care. Morning and afternoon part-time care as well as a sessional ECCE program (Early Childhood Care and Education) are offered from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. The early years service is located in Fettercairn Community Centre. The building is single storey and comprises a single 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 which is currently not in use.
Staffing	The registered provider is on the board of management and does not work directly with the children. Five adults were present in the service. Four adults worked directly with the children. All adults employed in the service hold an Early Childhood Care & Education qualification ranging from level 5 to level 6.
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 and advance notice had been given to the service of the planned inspection. This minimised disruption to service provision while services focus on re-opening and familiarising staff and children with new ways of working. 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

- (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.
- (7) A registered provider shall ensure that all employees, unpaid workers and contractors are appropriately supervised and provided with appropriate information and where necessary training, including in relation to the following:
- (a) the policies, procedures and statements of the service specified in Schedule 5;

Compliance Information:

Following a review of the service file and a discussion with the designated person in charge it was confirmed there were three new members of staff employed in the service since the last inspection. These three files were reviewed on the day of the inspection.

(2)

- (a) Six validated references were from a past employer were available on file
- (b) Not applicable, the references provided were from past employers.
- (c) Completed Garda vetting disclosures were available for all newly employed staff.
- (d) Not applicable, Police vetting was not required as none of the adults employed had lived outside the State for a period of longer than six months as an adult.

(7)

- (a) Evidence was provided to confirm staff had completed in house training on the revised policies and procedures. A written record was available signed by staff of training completed.

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 10 - Policies, Procedures etc. of Pre-school service

A registered provider of a pre-school service shall ensure that the written policies, procedures and statements specified in Schedule 5 are in place for the service.

Compliance Information:	Written policies, procedures and statements specified in Schedule 5 were in place for the service. Documents reviewed on this inspection included; • Infection control policy and cleaning procedures. • Covid 19 Policy and response plan. • The risk management policy. • Incident plan. • Revised drop off and collection procedures.
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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.*

Compliance Information:	(1) During the period of inspection there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service. (2) The minimum adult/child ratio was maintained at all times. In total there were three adults working directly with ten children.
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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:

SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AROUND CHILDREN:

Adults were observed showing warmth and sensitivity towards children in their care as evidenced in their positive use of language and soft tone of voice and by addressing children by name. Staff were observed supporting children at play in the outdoor area teaching them how to share and take turns and praising them for their efforts. There was a lot of conversation between the staff and children.

The atmosphere in the service was relaxed and friendly. Halloween arts and crafts completed by children were stored in individual folders for children to bring home. The service communicates with parents via email and has a social media page where information is shared.

PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT

The pre-school room was equipped with low level tables and chairs suitable to the age of the children in attendance. Children's art was displayed.

There were designated interest areas within the room to include a home corner, construction area, and an art station. All toys and materials were stored on low-level shelving visible and accessible to the children to facilitate child-led play.

A sofa was available for children to rest or take a break from activities.

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 entry to the service was appropriately secured by an intercom system to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the preschool. - All cleaning agents and medication were stored safely out of reach of children. - Fire exits were clearly marked and unobstructed. INFECTION CONTROL: - Additional measures were observed in keeping with the services amended infection control policy in light of the Covid-19 pandemic to include hand sanitising units and signage indicating 2 metres distance. Cleaning schedules were maintained and the environment was clean. - The sanitary accommodation was equipped with a supply of thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid soap, disposable paper towel and pedal operated waste bins were provided. - Children were encouraged to wash their hands regularly including prior to eating and after using the toilet. SAFE SLEEP: - The service does not cater for children under 2 years of age. Low level beds were provided for older children who required a nap.
Non-Compliance Information:	GENERAL SAFETY: In the outdoor play area the gate on the side of the community playground was not locked posing the potential risk of unauthorised access to the children's play area.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	<u>CORRECTIVE ACTION</u> GENERAL SAFETY: The community centre Chairperson was informed that this gate was unlocked and has replaced the lock with a new one. <u>PREVENTIVE ACTION</u> GENERAL SAFETY: As part of the outdoor risk assessments staff will check the side gate to ensure it is locked before bringing children outside.
Summary Comment:	The registered provider has addressed the non compliance in Regulation 23.

Additional Significant Risk(s) to Children

Regulation 8 – Notification of Change in Circumstances

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a temporary pre-school service shall, subject to paragraph (3), notify the Agency in writing of any proposed change in the details in relation to the pre-school service contained in the register pursuant to section 58C (2) of the Act or Regulation 7(2) at least 60 days before it is proposed that the change would take effect.

Non-Compliance Information:

(1) The designated person in charge is not the person identified on the register. This non-compliance was noted on the previous inspection. The actions proposed by the registered provider at that time failed to prevent a recurrence of this non-compliance.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

CORRECTIVE ACTION

A Person in Charge form has been completed and emailed into Tusla Registration.

PREVENTIVE ACTION

This will be changed again if the person in charge leaves.

Summary Comment:

The registered provider has addressed the non compliance in Regulation 8 (1).