

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY073
--------------------------	-------------

Name of Service:	Fizzy Fingers
-------------------------	---------------

Address of Service:	St Kevins Jnr School, Newbrook Avenue, Donaghmede, Dublin 13.
----------------------------	---

Eircode:	D13 DK88
-----------------	----------

Name of Registered Provider:	Camelia Lavica Bilt
-------------------------------------	---------------------

Service type:	Sessional
----------------------	-----------

Date of Inspection:	15/06/2026
----------------------------	------------

No of pre-school children:	AM	17	PM	Non-Applicable
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	----------------

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Floor 7 Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, St John's Road West, Kilmainham, Dublin 8 D08 X01F
Inspection undertaken by:	E. Griffin
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).

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Description of service

Fizzy Fingers is located on the grounds of a primary school in North Dublin. The service provides sessional care and education to a maximum of 22 children aged 2-6 years, from Monday to Friday between 9:00 am to 12:00pm school term only. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme and is also registered to operate a school aged service. There is one care room which has its own sanitary accommodation and also has direct access to an outdoor play area.

Staffing

The registered provider works directly with children in the service and employs three adults. This includes a deputy person in charge, an early year's educator and one adult who works in the care room in a supernumerary capacity providing support when required.

When the inspector arrived at the service there were three adults present; the registered provider, the deputy person and an early year's educator.

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 and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required. The following regulations were reviewed.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

- Regulation 9 (1), (2), (3) and (4) Management and Recruitment
- Regulation 11 (1) and (3)
- Regulation 16 Record in Relation to Pre-School Service
- Regulation 19 Health, Welfare and Development of Child
- Regulation 23 Safeguarding the Health, Safety and Welfare of the Child
- Regulation 25 First Aid

However, on inspection an additional non-compliance was identified under Regulation 31(1)(d) Notification of Incidents. A sampling process was used to assess compliance under Regulation 16 (1)(j) and (k), Regulation 19 (1)(b) Health, Welfare and Development of Child and Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child. As a result, the scope of the inspection included the one care room and the outdoor play area.

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 provider, 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.*

(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 registered provider is also the person-in-charge and has one named person who can deputise when required.
 - (b) The registered provider and deputy person in charge were present in the service on the morning of the inspection.
 - (c) There was a clear management structure in place, and this was further evidenced through discussion with the registered provider in relation to own role and the roles of the three adults employed.
- (2) The files of the registered provider and three adults who were new to the service since the last inspection were reviewed.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

- (a) There were five written and validated references available from past employers.
 - (b) There were three written and validated references from a source other than a past employer.
 - (c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for the registered provider and three adults. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
 - (d) International Police vetting was available for two adults had lived in a state other than Ireland for six months or more as an adult.
- (4) The registered provider and two adults who work directly with the children held 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.

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) therefore at that reference number is satisfied.*

Compliance Information

- (1) There were seventeen preschool children being cared for by the registered provider and two adults on the morning of inspection.
- (3) The correct adult to child ratios were maintained throughout the inspection.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of the following information in relation to the service:

- (j) details of any medication administered to a pre-school child attending the service with signed parental consent;*
- (k) details of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.*

Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider ensured the following:

- (j) A sample of one administration of medication record was reviewed as part of the inspection. All information was included.
- (k) A sample of two accident and incident records were reviewed as part of the inspection. All information was included.

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

(1) (b) The following observations are examples of suitable and appropriate care practices of the children:

- Interactions between staff and the children were observed to be kind, caring and appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children.
- There was a visual daily routine on display and staff were observed to give children verbal reminders in advance from moving from one activity to the next activity. This helps provide children with a sense of stability, security, and predictability.
- Children were exposed to the Irish language for example children appeared to be familiar with saying words in Irish and singing songs in Irish. Exposure to different languages supports the children's own language development.
- Literacy and mathematics were supported through discussion, songs and stories. At circle time staff were observed to ask the children open ended questions which also promoted language development.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

- Staff were observed to implement a Plan-Do-Review cycle. Where children were encouraged to chat about what they wanted to play with, while staff observed children at play and provided gentle scaffolding. At the end of the session children were observed recalling what they played with and what they had created. This helps build executive function, confidence, and narrative skills.
- Children were observed to be familiar with cleaning up and putting their toys away. This promoted independence.

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:

- On the unannounced arrival at the service by the inspector, the entrance door leading into the premises was appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises throughout the inspection.
- The inspector was asked to show identification and sign the visitor book by the registered provider who answered the door.
- The registered provider discussed how they check children's snack boxes for any potential choking hazards, including grapes
- The radiators had protective covers making the surface temperature inaccessible to the children attending.
- Windows were positioned at a high level and were inaccessible to the children attending and blind cords were secured.
- Toys and equipment used by the children were observed to be well maintained and in a good state of repair.
- The outdoor play area was appropriately secure and children who played outdoors were adequately supervised.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Infection Control:

- The sanitary accommodation was equipped with warm running water, liquid soap, and hand paper towels hygienically dispensed. Children were familiar with handwashing.
- Foot operated pedal bins were in use for the appropriate disposal of waste in the care room and sanitary facilities. These were observed to be in good working order.
- An ambient temperature of 18-22°C was maintained in the care room, and the windows were open to allow fresh circulation of air.
- The premises was observed to be in a clean and hygienic condition.

Administration of Medication:

- There was a documented care plan outlining the procedures for the safe administration of the prescribed medication for a child with a diagnosed medical condition. The prescribed medication was stored in its original box and was placed in a safe area out of the reach of children.

Fire Safety:

- The fire exit doors were observed to be clear from obstruction and This helped ensure the safe effective evacuation of children and staff in the event of an emergency evacuation.
- Up to date contemporaneous attendance logs for staff and children were available which facilitate the safe evacuation of the premises in the event of an emergency.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. Cleaning products were observed to be stored and accessible to children in an unlocked press under the sink in the care room. This posed a potential risk of safety. It is acknowledged that staff took immediate action by removing the products once the identified risk had been brought to their attention by the inspector.
2. The registered provider did not ensure that trailing flexes accessible to children were secured. Evidenced by the following.
 - There was a portable air conditioning unit positioned on a shelf in the care room. This unit was observed to be not secured and had a wire hanging which was at an accessible height to the children. This posed a risk of injury. It is acknowledged that the registered provider took immediate action and removed the unit once the identified risk had been brought to their attention.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

- There was a trailing flex hanging from a Wi-Fi router in the care room located behind the role play costumers. This posed a risk of injury. It is acknowledged that staff took immediate action and secured the trailing flex once the identified risk had been brought to their attention.

Infection Control:

3. Perishable snacks brought by the children from home for morning snack time were observed not to be stored in a fridge. This increases the risk of causing illness to young children.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. All cleaning products were removed from the reach of children and were safely relocated on a high shelf in the bathroom area. The actions were taken on the same day of the inspection. All the staff members were informed about this. Staff and management are conscious of the possibility of children opening the cupboards will ensure that all cleaning products will be out of their reach going forward.
2. All wires were removed and the portable air purifier was placed in a different area of the room, not accessible to children. Management disabled the wi-fi router until the caretaker will properly secure it onto the wall. All wires were promptly removed and out of the reach of the children. The school caretaker will be securing any other cables in the future making a safe place for all the children.

Infection Control:

3. From September onwards the service will supply a bigger fridge, and staff will make sure that all the lunches will be properly stored in the fridge for the duration of playschool. For the remaining days of this term, staff will be extra vigilant and ensure any perishable goods are placed in a Ziplock bag and stored in the existing fridge. From September, the service will introduce small individual labelled boxes which will be stored in the newly acquired bigger fridge at arrival time. This action will be implemented into the daily routine.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

1. Photographic evidence of cleaning agents removed from cupboard and positioned on high shelf.
2. Photographic evidence showing no trailing flexes accessible to children.

Infection Control:

3. No supporting documentation submitted.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Summary Comment

The actions taken by the registered provider through the corrective and preventive action plan have addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 23.

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) Evidence was available to show that the registered provider held a valid First Aid Responder (FAR) certificate.

(2) The registered provider ensured the following.

(a) The first aid equipment was safely stored, and unobstructed if needed to access quickly.

(b) The registered provider showed the inspector a suitably equipped first aid box which was readily available for the adults caring for children attending the service if required.

Part VIII - Notifications and Complaints

Regulation 31 - Notification of incidents

A registered provider shall notify the Agency in writing within 3 working days of becoming aware of any of the following incidents occurring in the preschool service:

(d) a serious injury to a pre-school child while attending the service that requires immediate medical treatment by a registered medical practitioner whether in a hospital or otherwise;

Non-Compliance Information

(d) The registered provider did not ensure that the procedures specified under Regulation 31(d) were completed within three working days regarding two notifiable incidents where a child had sustained an injury while attending the service and had required follow up medical treatment.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(d) The two notifications have now been submitted on the Tusla website. The registered provider was not aware that if an accident/incident that involves seeking medical attention needs to be notified to Tusla. The registered provider had notified the insurance company. Management had done a risk assessment of both accidents and have put in preventative actions. The registered provider is now aware of the notification of incident process.

Supporting documentation submitted

- Documentary evidence of the two notifications of incident forms been submitted.

Summary Comment

The actions taken by the registered provider through the corrective and preventive action plan have addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 31.