

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY075							
Name of Service:	Fledglings Youthreach							
Address of Service:	Ratoath Rd Cabra Dublin 7.							
Email Address:	annegenockey@ancosan.ie							
Name of Registered Service Provider:	Ms Anne Genockey							
Type of Service Registered:	Part-Time	☒						
Date of Inspection:	1	6	0	6	2	0	2	1
No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection:	AM	17						

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Child and Family Agency, Dublin North East, 2 nd Floor, Unit 4&5 Nexus Building, Block 6A, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15.
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Inspection undertaken by:	Ms M Foley
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	N/A
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Description of Service	The service was established in 2008 and is one of eight An Cosán childcare services. The service offers part-time and sessional childcare and education to children aged from 2 to 6 years old. Opening times are from 9am to 1pm Monday to Friday for 38 weeks per year. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme.
Premises	The service is located in the multipurpose premises of Cabra Youthreach. There are two childcare rooms located on the ground floor, an office, kitchen and sanitary accommodation. The outdoor area situated near the front of the premises is surrounded by wooden fencing.
Staffing	On the day of inspection, there were five staff employed to provide care to children in the two care rooms.
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 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—
- (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:

Two staff files were reviewed and the following was available:

- (2) (c) Completed Garda vetting disclosure were available for both staff members.
- (d) Not applicable as neither staff required International police vetting documentation.
- (4) Of the two files reviewed, documentation was available to show that they held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 and above on the National Framework of 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 fourteen children attending the service being supervised directly by four staff members. All the children were over two years old.
- (2) The minimum ratio of adult to children was maintained throughout the inspection and this was also verified by the staff sign in records and staff rosters available for inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 11 - Staffing Levels

(8)(c) Not applicable, as the service is not operated single-handedly. There were four adults working directly with the children. The person-in-charge facilitated the inspection and was available to provide additional support in the care rooms when needed.

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:

Basic needs of Children

- Parents provide a snack for their child and this was stored in the designated food fridge until needed. Additionally, the school provides a lunch prepared on-site for the children. Milk or water was provided at mealtimes and throughout the day. A three-week menu was available for inspection.
- Staff members sat with the children which made the snack experience an enjoyable and social event. Snack time was relaxed and enjoyable.
- The children were observed to be supervised and assisted with hand hygiene prior to snack time, after using the toilet and as needed.
- All children were observed enjoying freedom of movement within their pre-school room.
- The children were supported to be self-caring including: toileting, dressing for home and caring for their belongings.

Physical & Material Environment

The care rooms were stocked with low-level tables and chairs and low level shelving with age appropriate toys and equipment accessible to the children.

In the Toddler room, the following was observed;

- Defined areas of interest were available such as; construction, arts and crafts and a well-equipped home area.
- Other areas included shelving with equipment for threading, pouring, building, counting and for development of fine motor skills such as a variety of shape sorters and jigsaws, these were used and enjoyed by the children.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

- Staff assisted children with water play in their free standing water trough. The children were helped prepare by wearing aprons. Toys and equipment for pouring and measuring were also used at this time. Animals and funnels were also available. The children enjoyed relaxed conversation and fun during water play.
- Playdoh was provided and the children enjoyed learning and being creative, with items such as shapes and cutters.

In the Pre-school room;

- The large “L” shaped room was laid out in several areas of interest including a large cosy area beside a library, a construction area with large and small wooden bricks and blocks, cars, trains, ramps and baskets of animals.
- The arts and crafts area had paints, paper, shapes, brushes rollers, colouring pencils and aprons ready for use. All was within easy reach of the children. The children spent some time cutting shapes and creating posters.
- The home area had open shelving with pots, pans, utensils, and tableware to support imaginative play.
- During the day, the children played with play dough, crayons, paint, paper, books, dolls, puzzles, wooden blocks and shapes. Staff provided supervision and support during activities.
- Children enjoyed outdoor play in their designated outdoor area and preparation included supporting the children’s independence while they put on their coats and outdoor footwear.

Supporting Relationships Around Children

- The children were relaxed and enjoyed interactions with the staff. Staff encouraged children with their chosen activities using calm tones, providing assistance whenever needed.
- During Covid-19 level 5 national restrictions, a staff member supervises arrival and collection times. On arrival, parents/guardians are asked to update staff if there are any concerns and especially any Covid-19 concerns. At collection time a staff member briefly updates parents/guardians about their child’s day while maintaining 2-meter physical distancing and wearing face coverings.
- Staff continue to communicate through phone conversation and can facilitate a longer meeting in a well ventilated area with 2-meter physical distancing in place if needed.

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:

Infection Control:

- Staff were familiar with the systems and procedures in place in the event of; becoming unwell while on duty or on leave and if an adult or child becomes unwell during the day. On discussion with staff, they reported knowledge of the symptoms of ill health and when self isolation was indicated.
- An area was identified and available in the event of an adult or child becoming unwell during the day. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to include; masks, single use disposable gloves and aprons were available in the event that they are required.
- In line with their Covid-19 guidelines: staff ensured that cleaning was undertaken at regular intervals such as before and after snacks and meals, and when children leave the service. Shelving, toys and equipment are cleaned daily after use.
- A cleaning schedule was in operation within the care rooms, outdoor play area and sanitary facilities to ensure that regular cleaning of high contact areas such as; door handles, taps, work tops, toilets and surfaces are cleaned throughout the day and after use. An adequate amount of cleaning materials were available within the care rooms and were stored out of reach of children.
- Foot operated pedal bins were provided for the disposal of waste in the care room and the sanitary facilities.
- Adequate ventilation was available in the care rooms and sanitary areas by means of openable windows.
- The service had identified toys, materials and equipment that were easily cleaned and sanitised for use within the care rooms and outdoor area, these include; blocks, bricks, cars, shape sorters, activity centres, stacking cups and cones. All mouthing toys were cleaned with the appropriate cleaning solution after use.
- Warm water, liquid soap and paper towels were available at wash hand basins used by the staff and children.
- External visitors and parents were restricted in line with Covid-19 guidelines. Parents were encouraged to contact service if a longer meeting was needed.

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

Compliance Information:	(1)(a) Records of monthly fire drills were available for inspection. A fire drill was carried out on 31/05/21. (b) A maintenance record for the firefighting equipment was available and dated 7/10/2021. A maintenance record for the smoke alarms was available and dated 8/6/21.
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