

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

TUSLA Identifier: TU2015DY199

Name of Service: Fine & Dandy

Address of Service: Rm 9 & 10 St Malachy's National School
St Helena's Road,
Finglas,
Dublin 11.

Email Address: Fineanddandy231@gmail.com

Name of Registered Service Provider: Ms. Gillian Dandy

Type of service registered: Sessional ☒

Date of Inspection: 1 2 0 5 2 0 2 1

No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection: AM 22 PM 3

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Early Years Inspectorate,
Child and Family Agency,
Dublin North East,
Ground Floor, Unit 4&5 Nexus Building, Block 6A,
Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15.

Inspection undertaken by: Ms M Foley
Title: Early Years Inspector

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection

Governance	Health, Welfare and Development	Safety
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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	This Sessional service is located in room 9 and 10 of St Malachy's National School which is in a residential area of Finglas. Opening times are from 8.50am to 11.50 and from 12.30 to 4pm daily. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme which is delivered over 38 weeks. The service also continues to provide care and education for a further five weeks until 23 rd July for children availing of the National Childcare Scheme (NCS). The maximum number of children the service can cater for is 22 children aged from two to six years old.
Staffing	There were three adults including the registered provider working directly with the children on the day of inspection.
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

- (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:

- (2) The file for one staff who had joined the service since last inspection was reviewed. The following was available:
- (a) This adult had two written and validated references from past employers.
 - (b) Not applicable as past employer references were available.
 - (c) Completed Garda vetting documents were available for one adult who had joined the service since last inspection.
 - (d) Not applicable as international police vetting was not required by this staff member.
- (7)(a) Documentary evidence was available to demonstrate that all staff had been updated and received training in regard to the revised policies of the service, to include: Infection control risk, risk management and incident plan, training on correct procedure for hand washing, revised drop off and collection procedures and the revised procedures for cleaning and infection control.

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:	The following policies were reviewed and found to meet with Covid-19 requirements. Infection control policy included a cleaning policy and cleaning procedures and checklists. Hand Hygiene policy was up-dated and the person-in-charge and staff present on the day of inspection were aware of their role in encouraging, supporting and supervising hand hygiene on arrival to the service and as needed. Good practice was observed on the day of inspection. Risk management policy had been reviewed to include Covid-19 practices in the event of a possible case of Covid-19 and a confirmed case. A return to childcare questionnaire is completed by parents prior to their child's attendance. The person-in-charge was aware of her role and responsibility in each situation. Appropriate personal protective supplies were available for use. An incident plan was in place and the person-in-charge is aware of the need to notify the department of Public Health and Tusla of notifiable illnesses including Covid-19. Drop-off and collection policy and procedure includes wearing of face covering and encouragement of physical distancing if waiting is required. Information on Covid-19 has been shared with parents. Hand sanitizer was available to support hand hygiene when hand washing with warm water liquid soap is not immediately available, for example, during outdoor play and at entrance door to the premises
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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.*
- (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) Staff sign-in records were available for inspection. These records demonstrated that at all times an adequate number of adults were working directly with the children.
- (3) The minimum ratio of adults to children was maintained as indicated by attendance records available for inspection. There were twenty-two children and three staff for the morning sessional service. On the day of inspection both care rooms were open.
- Room 1/Pod 1: there were eleven children aged from three to five years old and two staff.
 - Room 2/Pod2: there were eleven children aged from 2 to four years old and two staff.
- (8)(c) Not applicable as this sessional service employs four adults.

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:

- Parents have been informed of the revised procedures for arrival and collection times during Covid-19 pandemic. Staff were aware of these procedures.
- Staff meet and greet parents and children daily at their designated area and a brief update on the child is shared.
- The service communicates with parents via an agreed phone "app" to keep parents informed of activities and any changes to opening times.
- Parents have the opportunity to contact the service directly by phone to discuss any issues or concerns that may arise. When requested, staff can facilitate a 2m physical distance meeting in line with Covid-19 guidelines.
- Throughout the inspection period staff demonstrated warmth and kindness towards the children, as evidenced in the positive language used when speaking with the children while supporting their table top activities and during outdoor play.

Physical and Material Environment

There were two care rooms in use. An appropriate number of low level tables and chairs and low level open shelving with age appropriate toys and equipment were in place in each room.

Room 1/Pod 1:

There were many areas of interest throughout the room.

- On the day of inspection, the children enjoyed building with a variety of bricks and blocks, building jigsaws and listening to stories chosen by the children from the library area and read by staff.
- A construction area, an arts and & crafts area and a home area were also available.
- A rest and relaxation with a soft low couch and soft wipe clean mats with cushions was available if needed.
- Children enjoyed time in their outdoor area playing under the covered area at low colourful wooden benches, playing at the low climbing wall and free play on the grass area.

Room2/Pod 2:

- Circle time was facilitated by staff with the children choosing songs and stories while learning to take turns to give their news.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

- A well-equipped home area, a rest and relaxation area, an arts and crafts area and an area with wooden jigsaws, shapes, bricks and blocks were available and used to support creative play and promote both gross motor and fine motor development.
- The children enjoyed time in their outdoor area which consisted of natural materials such as trees, leaves, grass and wooden structures such as a wooden playhouse with stairs to entrance and a low wooden climbing unit.

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:

- In line with Covid-19 pandemic guidelines: staff were familiar with the systems and procedures in place in the event of; becoming unwell while on duty or on leave and if staff or a child becomes unwell during the day including knowledge of when self isolation was indicated.
- An isolation area has been identified and personal protective equipment to include; masks, single use disposable gloves and aprons were available in the event that they are required.
- Parents are asked to maintain 2-meter physical distancing and to wear a face covering. Staff also wear a face covering.

Environmental cleaning:

- A cleaning schedule was in operation within the care rooms 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 and were stored out of reach of children.

Toys/Materials/Equipment:

- The service have identified toys, materials and equipment that are easily cleaned and sanitised for use within the rooms. These include; blocks, bricks, cars, activity centres, aprons used during painting and water play and soft toys.
- A designated box was in use for toys that were brought to the mouth – these are collected after use and deep cleaned.

Ventilation:

- Adequate ventilation was available in the care rooms and sanitary areas through windows with high opening.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 23 - Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child

	Waste management: - Foot operated pedal bins were provided for the disposal of waste paper in the care room and the sanitary facilities. Hand hygiene: - Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap and paper towels were available at all wash hand basins used by the staff and children including at the wash-hand basin in each care room. - Hand sanitiser was available in the service. - Staff were familiar with coughing and sneezing etiquette and disposable paper tissues are available throughout the service. Safe Sleep: - All children attending are over two years old and rest and relaxation areas were available in both rooms.
Non-Compliance Information:	Infection Control: - Lunches with perishable food were not stored in the services' fridge. - A mop and mop bucket was stored in the care room.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	Corrective Action - All items of a perishable nature will be stored in the services fridge - A storage locker is now used to store mops. Preventive Action - We will continue to use the services fridge for storing lunches. - Mops will not be left in the care room. Evidence Submitted Written response from the registered provider.
Summary Comment:	The registered provider submitted their corrective action and preventative action (CAPA) plan to address the non-compliance outlined in regulation 23 above. Regulatory compliance has been met.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

*A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-
(e)quipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Non-Compliance Information:	On dates including 10 th and 11 th May 2021, there were an inadequate number of toilets and wash-hand basins in Pod 1 for the thirteen children who were in attendance. There is one toilet and wash-hand basin in Pod 1 sanitary area.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	<u>Corrective Action</u> Work will be starting in the next week or so to have an extra toilet and sink installed in each of the care rooms as there is no children in the service at the moment. <u>Preventive Action</u> The work will be completed before we reopen for the new term. <u>Evidence Submitted</u> As per the registered providers CAPA response.
Summary Comment	The registered provider submitted their corrective action and preventative action (CAPA) plan to address the non-compliance outlined in Regulation 29 Premises. Regulatory compliance has not yet been met as installation of the sanitary facilities is pending.