

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier: TU2015DY253

Name of Service: Eala Óg Childcare Centre

Address of Service: Goldenbridge Integrated Complex, Inchicore, Dublin 8. D08 YWN2.

Email Address: ealaog@eircom.net

Name of Registered Service Provider: Philomena McSorley

Type of service registered: Full Day Care ☒

Date(s) of Inspection: 1 5 0 3 2 0 2 1

No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection: AM 8 PM 8

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

Inspection undertaken by : O Quill
Title: Early Years Inspector

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection	
Governance	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	Eala Óg Childcare centre was established in 2006 and is registered as a full day care service. The community based service is located in an urban, residential area in Inchicore, Dublin 8. A service is provided Monday to Friday between 9am and 1pm to children aged between two and six years. The early years service is an adapted dwelling, on the ground floor of a two storey multi-purpose community building. Children care and education is provided across two pre-school rooms. The small room (2-3 years) and the big room (3-5). An outdoor play area is provided on the premises.
Staffing	On the 15 th of March 2021 seven adults were employed in the service including; the designated person in charge and cook. Five adults worked directly with the pre-school children. Evidence was available to show adults working directly with the children had attained major awards in Early Childhood Care and Education.
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, 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.
- (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 one new member of staff was employed in the service since the last inspection. This file was reviewed on the day of the inspection.

(2)

(a) Not applicable, the references provided were not from a past employer.

(b) Two references were from a source other than a past employer.

(c) Completed Garda vetting disclosure from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána was available for the newly employed staff member.

(d) Police vetting disclosure was available for the newly employed adult who lived outside the state as an adult for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months.

(7)

(a) Staff had completed online training around Covid-19 evidence of this was provided. A written record was available to show all staff had read the revised policies and procedures.

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 ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 was maintained during the inspection. Two care rooms/ pods were in operation. In total there were five adults working directly with eight pre-school children.
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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 entrance door to the service was adequately secured to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised.

Toys and play equipment observed in use by the children on the day of inspection were safe and in good working order. All cleaning products and medications were stored safely out of reach of children.

INFECTION CONTROL:

The environment was clean and a cleaning schedule was maintained by the service including toys, equipment and surfaces. Children were observed washing their hands prior to eating. Staff cleaned the tables prior to snack being served. The sanitary area was equipped with thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap and disposable paper towel for hand drying. Pedal operated waste disposal bins were in place.

Play dough was made up freshly and discarded after use. Children had their own individual labelled box of pencils and crayons.

Staff when interviewed were familiar with the signs and symptoms of Covid-19 and the actions to take if a child was unwell. Both pre-school rooms/ pods had a designated area within the room to isolate a child with suspected symptoms of Covid-19. A supply of PPE was available and stored in a labelled container.

Non-Compliance Information:

INFECTION CONTROL:

The nappy change policy for the service was not implemented during nappy changing in the Big Room; a child's hands were not washed after changing posing an infection control risk.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

CORRECTIVE ACTION

INFECTION CONTROL:

The nappy change policy was circulated to all staff by Project Leader and reviewed with each staff member individually.

Nappy changing routine sheet displayed in nappy changing area has been updated and states all the steps clearly including that the child's hands needs to be washed before returning to their room. Photographic evidence sent by email on 21st April 2021. Copy of updated Nappy changing routine document sent by email 21st April 2021

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 23 - Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child

	<u>PREVENTIVE ACTION</u> INFECTION CONTROL: Nappy changing policy will be reviewed on regular basis involving all staff members. Any changes will be circulated to all staff as soon as they happen.
Summary Comment:	The registered provider has addressed the non-compliance in Regulation 23; evidence was submitted which meets the regulatory requirement.