

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015OY014
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Name of Service:	Rainbowland Childcare Ltd
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Address of Service:	Rainbowland Childcare Centre, Carrick Road, Edenderry, Co. Offaly
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Eircode:	R45 XF99
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Name of Registered Provider:	James Moore
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	09/06/2026
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No of pre-school children:	AM	69	PM	35
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla, Child and Family Agency, SAP Office, St. Loman's Campus, Springfield, Mullingar, Co Westmeath
Inspection undertaken by:	C.O' Connor Hughes & K. Murphy
Title:	Early Years Inspectors

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).

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Description of service

Rainbowland Childcare provides a full day care, part time and sessional service for children. The age range of children currently enrolled in the service is 1 to 6 years of age.

Six pre-school rooms, an office area, a reception area, a sleep room, storage areas and a kitchen are provided. Outdoor play areas are attached to the rear of the premises. This service is part of a multiple. A school age childcare service is provided. The service is located in a residential area in the town of Edenderry, County Offaly.

Staffing

The registered provider employs nineteen adults. The person in charge, deputy person in charge and fifteen adults were working directly with children on the 9 June 2026. The area manager arrived at the service during the inspection and attended the closing meeting with the person in charge. The registered provider does not work with children.

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/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under:

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- Regulation 9 Management and Recruitment (1)(a)(b)(c) (7)(a)(b)(c)
- Regulation 10 Policies, Procedures of Pre-School Service
- Regulation 11 Staffing levels (1)(2)(8)(a)
- Regulation 16 Record of a pre-school service (1) (h)(i)(k)
- Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child - General Safety
- Regulation 27 Supervision
- Regulation 28 Insurance
- Regulation 31 Notification of Incident

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.

Additional Information

The inspection was triggered by the Notification of Incident form submitted by the service to TUSLA on the 3 June 2026.

Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge, deputy designated person in charge, area manager, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

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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.*

(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;*
- (b) Part VIIA (inserted by section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 (No. 40 of 2013)) of the Act, and*
- (c) these Regulations.*

Compliance Information

(1)(a)

The person in charge and a named person to deputise were available as required.

(b)

The person in charge and deputy person in charge were present for the duration of the inspection.

(c)

A notice outlining the management structure in the service was displayed in the premises and detailed the person in charge and the deputy designated person in charge.

(7)(a)

Evidence of team meetings was available for review.

Some staff had a documented staff supervision record on file for March 2026.

Staff had completed mandatory training including children first, first aid response and manual handling with certificates available for review in the individual staff profiles.

Evidence of a completed induction training sheet was completed by nine individual staff members and available for review.

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Seventeen staff had signed as having read and understood the policies and procedures of the service.

Non-Compliance Information

(7)(a)

Evidence of a completed induction training sheet was not completed in respect of ten individual staff members. The document signed by staff in respect of reading and understanding the policies and procedure of the service was not dated and made no reference to the year or version of the policies and procedures reviewed.

With the exception of some of the staff signing the policies and procedures for the service there was no evidence of service wide staff training undertaken in any specific service policies and procedures.

(7)(b)(c)

There was no evidence of service wide staff training undertaken in the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(7)(a)

A review of all staff personnel files has been completed. Missing induction records for staff employed under previous management have now been completed retrospectively and clearly indicate that these were not completed by the previous manager and have been added to their files. In addition, the Policy and Procedure Sign-Off Sheet has been updated to include the date signed and the specific version of the Policies and Procedures Manual being acknowledged to ensure accurate record-keeping going forward.

As above, paperwork has been updated and regular audits of personnel files will take place biannually.

(7)(b)(c)

All staff have been provided with the link to complete the Tusla Quality and Regulatory Framework (QRF) eLearning Programme and issued with a deadline for completion. Certificates of completion are being collected and have been added to individual staff personnel files as evidence of compliance and ongoing professional development. Completion dates vary as we have full time and term time only staff on site.

Management have updated paperwork and regular audits of personnel files will take place biannually.

Supporting documentation submitted

Documentation on policy and procedures.

Quality Regulatory Framework certificates for eleven staff members.

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Summary Comment

Evidence submitted and reviewed by the Early Years Inspector met the Regulatory requirement.

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 presented by the designated person in charge were reviewed and found to be in keeping with Regulation 10.

- Accidents and incidents policy
- Outdoor play policy
- Risk management policy
- Missing child policy
- Staffing training policy
- Supervision of staff policy

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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.

(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)
The minimum ratio of adults to children was maintained during the inspection.

(2)
There were sixty-nine children attending the service supervised directly by sixteen adults in the morning.
There were thirty-five children present in the afternoon supervised by nine adults in the afternoon.

(8)(a)
The staff roster indicated there were two adults on the premises at all times

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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:

- (h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;*
- (i) details of staff rosters on a daily basis;*
- (k) details of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.*

Compliance Information

(1)

The service held information in respect of (h)(i)(k).

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 to the service was secure. Entrance to the service is through the main reception area. The inspectors signed the visitors book on arrival. The perimeter of the service is surrounded by high fencing. Safety risk assessments were available and reviewed for the indoor and outdoor environments. The person in charge stated there is a maintenance log in the service for issues that arise and action taken to correct same once identified by staff members.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

1. The “Adventure Island” play equipment in the Toddler room has not been removed since the last inspection on the 13 January 2026. The CAPA response stated the adventure island play equipment would be removed when sold.

The “Adventure Island” is required to be removed immediately from the Toddler room to ensure the safety of the young children aged 2- 3 years attending the service.

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2. The outdoor surface material in front of the Cabin and next to the exit door from pre-school room 4 is unsafe as it posed a risk of a slip, trip or fall hazard to children and staff and requires replacement. There were uneven ridges in the green surface material and gaps were noted in the black tiles where the play equipment was located. An accumulation of water was also noted.
3. Visibility strips were in not in place on the fire exit patio doors in the toddler room and at the front entrance in order for children to recognise glass.
4. The side of the radiator was broken in the Cabin.
5. The radiator cover unit was not secured to the wall as the screws had become loose from the wall in the Cabin.
6. An electrical extension lead with cables attached was noted hanging down over the fire extinguisher accessible to children in the Cabin.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. The adventure island play equipment has been removed from the Toddler room.
2. The agreed works include the removal of the existing green surface material and black rubber tiles, followed by the installation of bark mulch to provide a safe and compliant outdoor environment. Works are scheduled to begin on Wednesday 15th of July with an approximate completion time of 3 days. Risk assessments are carried out regularly and all perished materials that have worn through wear and tear have been removed and replaced with a more sustainable material.
3. Frosted film strips have been placed on the door to increase visibility. Management will ensure that visibility strips stay intact and are monitored through daily risk assessments.
4. The side of the radiator in the cabin has been secured. This issue will be monitored through daily risk assessments.
5. The small electric radiator and cover have been removed from the cabin area.
6. A socket has been inserted by the electrician and the extension cable removed.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

1-6 Photographic evidence submitted.

Summary Comment

Evidence submitted and reviewed by the Early Years Inspector met the Regulatory requirement.

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Part VI - Safety

Regulation 27 – Supervision

A registered provider shall ensure that pre-school children attending the service are supervised at all times.

Compliance Information

Children were supervised in the indoor and outdoor environments and when using the toilet during the inspection. Staff were observed to carry out a head count when children were moving from the outdoor play area into the pre-school rooms. A supervision of children policy supported the practice observed in the service.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

Compliance Information

There was evidence of current insurance cover for the number of children attending the service. The expiry date noted was 27 March 2027.

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:

(e) an incident in respect of which a pre-school child attending the service goes missing while attending the service.

Compliance Information

(e)
The person in charge submitted a notification of incident form to TUSLA Early Years Inspectorate on the 3 June 2026.