

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015WW132							
Name of Service:	Tinkerbelle Community Pre-school Ltd.							
Address of Service:	Main Street, Kilteagan, Co. Wicklow							
Email Address:	maryan2286@yahoo.ie							
Name of Registered Service Provider:	Mr. John Timmins							
Type of Service Registered:	Sessional		☒					
Date of Inspection:	2	6	0	4	2	0	2	2
No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection:	AM		9	PM		N/A		
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla Child and Family Agency, First Floor Trinity Building, IDA Business Park, Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow.							
Inspection undertaken by:	H. Bourke							
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	1. Pursuant to Part II, Regulation 6(5), the Agency is supplied (no later than September 1st, 2022) with the information required to satisfy the requirements of Part II, Regulation 6, Registration of a Preschool. And 1. Pursuant to Part VI, Regulation 23, the Agency is supplied (no later than September 1st, 2022) with the information required to provide assurance that the service is compliant with the state required fire safety and building control measures. 2. In the interim and without delay you put in place a robust safety plan to ensure that the current absence of fire safety confirmation poses no risk to children who attend your service. This plan must be in written format and available for inspection.
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Description of Service	Tinkerbell Community Pre-school was first established in 2000. It is a non-profit community service that is registered to provide care and education for children aged between 2 years and 6 years of age. The service is open from Monday to Friday between 09.00am and 12.00pm and partakes in the Early Childhood and Education Scheme (ECE) for 38 weeks of the year.
Premises	The service operates out of the old Kiltegan Health Centre, located in far end of Kiltegan village. The premises consists of two pre-school rooms, a separate sanitary area, an office and a large hall which extends the childrens indoor play area. There is also a well-equipped outdoor area to the rear of the premises, which the children use daily.
Staffing	There are three fulltime staff members, and this includes the designated person in charge. All staff members hold a qualification in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Framework of Qualifications. The registered provider does not work directly with the pre-school children and was not present 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 may be 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.
Additional Information	1. At the time of inspection this service had not provided confirmation to the agency that the premises is fire safe pursuant to Part VI, Regulation 23 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016. This issue was identified during the renewal of registration process and is currently being addressed by the early years inspectorate registration enforcement office 2. At the time of inspection this service had not provided necessary documents to the agency pursuant to Part II, Regulation 6(5) of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016. This issue was identified during the renewal of registration process and is currently being addressed by the early years inspectorate registration enforcement office. 3. An Immediate Action Notice was issued on 28th April 2022 to the registered provider in relation to Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child, General Safety. The designated person in charge responded by taking appropriate action when the issue was brought to their attention on the day of inspection.
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.
- (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.
- (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 files and a discussion with the designated person in charge, it was confirmed that there no new members of staff employed in the service since the last inspection.

(2)(a) (b) (c) (d)

Not applicable.

(4)

Not applicable.

(7)(a)

The service used up to date documentation to support learning and on-going professional development for all the adults working in the service. Through this documentation, adults working in the service were also updated on all policies and procedures of the service and signed that they had read and understood the policies. Additional information and training sessions had been provided to all adults working in the service due to COVID-19.

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 service had all the policies procedures and statements required under Schedule 5. Risk management and Infection control policies and procedures had been updated to reflect changing practices due to Covid-19. All the services policies, procedures and statements that were required to be available for parents, have been communicated to parents. Policies and procedures specific to the adults working in the service were available at all times to staff members.
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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) Throughout the inspection there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service. (3) The correct adult/child ratio was maintained at all times. There were 3 adults employed and present with 9 pre-school children on the day of Inspection. (8)(c) There were at least 2 adults on the premises at all times. This is not a single-handed service.
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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:

(1)(a)

BASIC NEEDS:

- There was a healthy eating policy in place. Adults sat with the children during their lunch and conversation was encouraged. Children were given plenty of time to eat their food in a relaxed and unhurried environment.
- Children were supported and encouraged to be independent with toileting but were supervised appropriately. Hand washing following toileting was observed and visible prompts to encourage same were in place.
- Children were given opportunities to make choices as to which activities they wished to do and were supported in their choice. Examples of some activities included playing, drawing, painting, using Montessori equipment and construction toys.
- All children were observed enjoying freedom of movement within their room and in the outdoor play area.
- There was water, visible and available for children to drink throughout the morning.

PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT:

- The room was laid out with appropriate equipment and toys accessible to the children from the low level shelving provided.
- The room was maintained at a comfortable temperature of 20 °C.
- Imaginative play was supported with toy kitchens, dolls, dress up clothes and construction toys.
- A rest area was available to the children in their rooms, consisting of cushions, soft matting, and a sofa, all of which were washable.
- Transition between activities was calm and unhurried.
- Children's artwork was displayed on the walls in the room.
- The outdoor area was well equipped with a climbing frame and slide, mud kitchen, toy push cars, a sand area, play kitchen, a rocker seesaw and construction toys. A new lean to had been erected so children could play outside in all weathers.

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: • All cleaning products were stored, out of the reach of children. • The emergency exit route in the pre-school rooms were clearly marked and free from obstruction. • The entrance door to the service was appropriately secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the pre-school. • The outdoor area was suitable, safe and secure. • Children had no access to the kitchen area in the service. INFECTION CONTROL: • Table cleaning was observed before and after snack time as was cleaning of the room following the children's collection time. • A cleaning schedule was present and maintained for each pre-school room. • Good hand hygiene practices were observed during the inspection by both staff and children. • The sanitary area was clean within the service. • Both pre-school rooms had access to hot water, liquid soap, paper towels and pedal operated lidded bins, for the safe disposal of used hand towels, by both adults and children. • The updated infection control policy and procedures to be followed in line with the COVID-19 pandemic, were still in place and included guidance on not attending if symptomatic and what to do in the event of a child or adult developing symptoms while attending the service. • An exclusion policy was available for both staff and children stating that a 48-hour requirement is necessary for both adults and children following vomiting and diarrhoea illness. • Hand sanitiser gel was available in each pre-school room and throughout the service.
Non-Compliance Information:	GENERAL SAFETY: 1. The hot water temperature in the sanitary area was between 60°C and 62°C this posed a serious injury risk to a child and a member of staff. Hot water temperatures within pre-school rooms and sanitary areas should not exceed 43°C. An Immediate Action Notice was issued for same on the 28th of April 2022. 2. The wooden radiator cover in the ECCE room was broken in places and posed an injury risk to children, this was noted on last inspection on the 10/09/2019.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	<u>CORRECTIVE ACTION</u> GENERAL SAFETY: Following the issuing of an Immediate Action Notice on 28th April 2022.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 23 - Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child

	1. The plumber was contacted during the inspection, and he came to Tinkerbelle the next morning and rectified the problem. 2. The radiator covers were removed, and new ones put in their place. <u>PREVENTIVE ACTION</u> GENERAL SAFETY: 1. The temperature of the water will be checked very frequently to ensure this does not happen again. 2. The covers will be checked regularly to ensure the children's safety. <u>EVIDENCE SUBMITTED</u> GENERAL SAFETY: See summary comment.
Summary Comment:	Photographic evidence was submitted by the registered provider, the non-compliances as identified on inspection in relation to Regulation 23 General Safety have been addressed.

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) An adult trained in first aid for children was present and immediately available to the children. (2)(a) The first aid box for children was safely stored in an accessible and conspicuous position in both pre-school rooms. (b) At all times the first aid box was available to the children attending the pre-school service.

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 firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises

Compliance Information:	(1)(a) A record in writing was kept of all fire drills that took place in the premises. The last fire drill was recorded on the 24/03/2022. (b) A record was available detailing the number, type and maintenance of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms dated November 2021 and August 2021 respectively. (4) Notices were displayed detailing the procedures to be followed in the event of fire.
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