

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2016GY012
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Name of Service:	Mothercare Creche
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Address of Service:	Cosmona, Loughrea, Co. Galway
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Eircode:	H62 CX40
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Name of Registered Provider:	Trina McCrossan
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Service type:	Full Day
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Date 1 of Inspection:	06/05/2026
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Date 2 of Inspection:	07/05/2026
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No of pre-school children Day 1:	AM	43	PM	38
No of pre-school children Day 2	AM	50	PM	43

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla – Child and Family Agency, Early Years Inspectorate, Quality Assurance Directorate, Clinical & Administration Building, Block A - (1st Floor- Green Corridor), Merlin Park, Co. Galway.
Inspection undertaken by:	E. Friel
Title:	Early Years Inspector

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

Mothercare Creche is a private full day care service which is registered to accommodate children aged from 0 to 6 years of age. Currently, children attending are aged from 12 months to 6 years. Operational hours are from 07:30 to 18:00, Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. The Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme is facilitated between the hours of 09:30 to 12:30, for 38 weeks of the year.

The service is in Monearmore, a short distance from the town of Loughrea in Co Galway. It operates from a two-storey detached building which has a ground and first floor. On entry there is a main care room, designated sleep room, kitchen and a nappy changing room. The first floor comprises of two rooms in use for school age care, an office, children and adult sanitary facilities and a room in use for pre-school children. At the rear of the service there is a detached Montessori care room with adult and children's sanitary facilities. A secure outdoor play area is located adjacent to the Montessori care room and a carpark is available at the front of the service. A school age service is available from 07:30 until 09:30 and from 13:30 until 18:00.

Staffing

There are 13 staff currently employed in the pre-school service including 1 adult employed under the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM), a relief person and the registered provider.

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

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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.

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.

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Additional Information

06/05/2026

On both days of inspection, the service was found to be operating outside of the service registration status and was referred to the registration office. There was an unregistered care room, known as the Pre-school care room, in operation on the first floor. The room catered for 11 children, 9 of whom were present on day 1 and 10 of whom were present on day 2. These children were not included in the maximum number of 47 children the service was registered to accommodate.

08/05/2026

A Service Operating Outside its Registration Status (SOORS) referral was submitted to the registration office which outlined the unregistered Pre-school care room in operation and the service operating outside its approved maximum number of 47 early years children at any given time. The service was found to have 58 children registered on both days.

08/05/2026

A referral was made to the fire officer in respect of the first floor where both pre-school and school age children are present on a daily basis as the conditions previously stated by the Chief Fire Officer on 3/10/2025 had not been met complied with which posed a risk to the safety of children in the event of a fire.

Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

Statutory Notices

Notice	Date Served	Detail
Immediate Action Notice IAN Code:0481	06/05/2026	The temperature of the hot water being used by the children in the wash hand basin of the changing/sanitary area for the children aged 1-2 years and 2-3 years, was recorded over 50°C.
Status	Action was taken by the registered provider immediately following issuance of the Notice at 13:10 on 06/05/2026. At 16:25 on 06/05/2026 the actions taken by the registered provider, on advice from a contractor, were reviewed by the inspector	

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	and found to address the IAN. The registered provider submitted a written response detailing the corrective and preventive measures taken. These were accepted by the inspector.	
Improvement Notice IN Code:0462	06/05/2026	Nine children were present in a care room known as the Pre-school room on the first floor of the service where there was no finalised fire certificate as the conditions previously listed by the Chief Fire Officer on 03/10/2025 were not met.
Status	The registered provider submitted corrective and preventive actions along with evidence of same on 14/07/2026 which were accepted and addressed the statutory notice.	

Part II - Registration and Register

Regulation 8 - Notification of change in circumstances

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a temporary pre-school service shall, subject to paragraph (3), notify the Agency in writing of any proposed change in the details in relation to the pre-school service contained in the register pursuant to section 58C (2) of the Act or Regulation 7(2) at least 60 days before it is proposed that the change would take effect.

Non-Compliance Information

(8)

(1) The service was found to be operating outside of its registration status and the following details were recorded.

- (a) Unauthorised addition of a care room known as the Pre-school care room on the first floor.
- (b) Unauthorised change in the number of children attending the service from 47 to 62.

While it was acknowledged that the registered provider had submitted a number of Change in Circumstance forms to Tusla from May to June 2025, they had commenced the proposed changes before returning the outstanding information requested and before a Fit for Purpose inspection could be carried out. Operating outside registration status could potentially compromise the safety and wellbeing of the children attending the service.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The following statements were received from the registered provider;

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1. (a) and (b)

- A CIC was submitted and approved by the registration office which included evidence of the requested information.

Supporting documentation submitted

The following documentation was received in the office of the inspectorate from the registered provider;

1. (a) and (b)

- A report from the engineers confirming that all required works have been completed and that all conditions attached to the granted Fire Safety Certificate have been satisfied, dated 14/07/2026.
- An email from the Chief Fire Officer, dated 14/07/2026, confirming a site visit had taken place.
- An email dated 16/07/2027 from the registration office confirming that the request for the CIC had been granted.

Summary Comment

The actions taken and evidence submitted by the registered provider have addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 8 (1) (a) and (b).

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.*

(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

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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

- (1)
- (a) The registered provider was the designated person in charge. Two deputies and two named persons were available to deputise.
- (b) A deputy and a named person were on the premises when the inspector arrived. The registered provider arrived within 30 minutes on commencement of the inspection.
- (2) The files of all 13 adults were reviewed.
- (a) Twenty one of 26 required written and validated references were from previous employers.
- (b) The remaining 5 written and validated references were from sources other than previous employers.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures for all 13 adults were available on file demonstrating compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew garda vetting every three years.
- (d) Curricula vitae available evidenced that overseas police vetting disclosures were not required as none of the adults had worked outside the state for a period of six consecutive months or longer as an adult.
- (4) Eleven adults working directly with the pre-school children attending the service, held at least a major award in Early childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent. The remaining two adults did not require a childcare qualification.

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.*

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Compliance Information

- (1) The registered provider ensured that there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children on both days of inspection.
- (2) The adult/child ratios were met.
- On day 1 there were 10 adults working directly with 43 children in the morning and 38 children in the afternoon.
- On day 2 there were 10 adults working directly with 50 children in the morning and 43 children in the afternoon.
- (8)
- (a) The staff roster indicated that the registered provider ensured that there was a minimum of two adults available during the operating hours of the service.

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:
- (a) the name, position, qualifications and experience of the person in charge and of every other employee, unpaid worker and contractor;
- (h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;

Compliance Information

- (a) The names, position, qualifications and experience of all the 13 adults were on file and furnished to the inspector.

Non-Compliance Information

- (h) On day 1, a staff member in the Montessori care room had not accurately recorded the arrival time of a child into the service. The child was signed at 07:52 and the inspector observed the child arriving at 09:25. This may pose risk in the event of an emergency.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The following statement was received from the registered provider;

- (h) A staff meeting was held and the importance of signing the children at the correct time was discussed.

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Management will check to ensure that the children and staff are accurately signed in at the time they arrived and signed out when they leave.

Supporting documentation submitted

(h) The statement made by the registered provider has been accepted.

Summary Comment

The action taken by the registered provider has addressed the non-compliance identified under Regulation 16 (h).

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:

- The food requirements for a full day care service- that at least two meals and two snacks, one of which must be a hot meal were provided by both the service and the parents/guardians on both days.
- Staff stated that breakfast served between 08:00 – 08:45 consisted of oat and wheat-based cereals and toast.
- Hot meals were provided by an outside source and reheated in the service kitchen. These consisted of cottage pie, lasagne, spaghetti bolognaise, korma, rice and meatballs which were observed being served over the two days.
- Snacks, provided by both the service and the parents/guardians and were served at regular intervals in the morning and afternoon. The Montessori and Pre-school care rooms took advantage of the warm day and had lunch at the picnic tables outdoors.
- Age and stage appropriate crockery and cutlery were available in each care room. Water was readily accessible from individual bottles and beakers which were positioned within reach of the children. The children having lunch in the outdoor play area had access to a jug of water and cups.
- Nappy changing in the main care room was carried out regularly and promptly. Adults were observed to be sensitive to the children's individual needs. Each child's personal details were recorded in the nappy changing book and this information was passed onto the parents/guardians on a daily basis.

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- Children in the Montessori care room were supervised in the sanitary area and encouraged to manage health practices independently including handwashing.
- Sun cream was applied and hats were visible on the children playing in the outdoor play area on both days of inspection, as the weather was hot and sunny.
- Rest and quiet areas in each care room were fitted with soft furnishings, including child's sized sofas, mats and cushions where the children could sit away from noisy activities.
- The adults were caring and sensitive in their response to the children's behaviour with staff providing comfort to children when they were upset in the main care room and in the Montessori care room.

Supporting children's relationships:

- Adults in the care rooms were observed sitting with the children and engaging in social conversation during mealtimes and tabletop activities. They were noted to listen to the children's conversations and use strategies such as open questioning, feedback and explanations to extend the children's thinking and learning.
- A key person approach was stated as being in place in the care rooms with staff assigned responsibility for the observations of a designated group of children.
- The adults stated that staff meetings with management take place monthly with topics at the last meeting in April 2026 including holiday cover, any issues or concerns and planning. Staff in the Montessori and Pre-school meet regularly and latest topics included graduation, behaviour management and curriculum planning.
- Staff in the main care room were heard supporting children to engage positively with each other in activities which required turn taking and sharing.

Physical and material environment:

- The care rooms were laid out in clearly defined areas with equipment and toys providing play and learning opportunities to enhance the learning needs of the children across all developmental areas.
- Children in the main care room aged 12-24 month were observed sitting on soft mats from which they were observed exploring and moving safely. They were observed playing with a selection of sensory equipment, fabric books and musical instruments. A variety of additional equipment located in storage trays was within reach of the children who were positioned mainly on the floor area.

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- Toys and equipment, which were stored in low boxes and drawers, offered ease of access, promoted choice and encouraged independence.
- Children were observed carrying out activities throughout the morning on suitable age-appropriate tables and chairs in both the indoor and outdoor play areas. Younger children in the main care room aged 12 to 24 months were observed sitting securely in highchairs while having food.
- Children were able to practice their gross motor skills of swinging, running, cycling, kicking and sliding from physical equipment in the outdoor play area including slides, balance bikes, rockers, cars and tractors. Sensory materials were available in two troughs and equipment including spades, buckets and moulds were visible in each of these.

Programme of activities:

- Observations in learning journals in both the Montessori and Pre-school care rooms were linked to both national frameworks of quality and curriculum and were written on each child every two months. These were documented by the key workers and were observed to create a complete, well-rounded picture of each child's progress and development. The adults stated that these observations informed the planning for the curriculum with children's emergent needs being taken into consideration.
- Children's language development was supported through one to one and group discussions, songs and storytelling which were observed during the inspection. Examples included a staff member reading stories in the main care room while children were resting.

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:

- Internal doors including the kitchen, adult toilets and storage room were secured to prevent children from accessing unsafe areas.
- The main door was secured on arrival and the adults could see who was at the door from the main care room windows ensuring unauthorised adults could not enter the service.
- Blind cords were secured with hooks which were inaccessible by the children in the designated sleep room.

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- All highchairs in use were fitted with safety harnesses ensuring the children could not climb out of them.
- Window handles were inaccessible to the children preventing children from falling or exiting the care room windows.
- Handrails were fitted on the internal stairs providing physical support for children climbing up and down them.
- Toys and equipment in the care rooms appeared in good condition and were well maintained.
- Heavy equipment and furniture in the care rooms were anchored to prevent tipping or falling.
- Cleaning agents in the care rooms were stored on high shelving out of reach of the children.
- The outdoor area at the rear, facilitating access to the play area from the main care room, was secured with high wooden fencing preventing children from leaving the area unsupervised.

Safe sleep:

- Sleep room temperatures for all children over the age of 12 months in the sleep rooms were within the recommended sleep temperatures of 18-22°C for children over 12 months. The sleep temperature in the designated sleep room was recorded as 19.2°C and the main care room sleep area at 20.1°C.
- The 8 cots in the designated sleep room were placed 50 centimetres apart ensuring the safety of the sleeping and resting children.
- Ten-minute physical sleep records were furnished to the inspector of the children asleep in the designated cot room. These were completed with the necessary details including the time, position, colour, breathing, staff signature and temperature of the sleep room.

Infection Control:

- Personal belongings including coats and bags were stored on individual hooks, off the floor area in care rooms and in the hallway.
- Handwashing was observed before the serving of food, after toileting and coming in from outdoor play.
- Child friendly handwashing pictures, with words, were visible at the sink in the children's sanitary area providing a visual reminder of the steps for hygienic health practices.
- Staff were observed sanitising the tables in the morning and afternoon, before and after the serving of food and sweeping the floor to ensure the areas were kept clean and hygienic.
- Cleaning checklists were completed and up to date providing evidence that the areas were being cleaned regularly, aiding in the prevention of the spread of infection and cross contamination.

Administration of Medication:

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- Temperature reducing medications were available in the event of an emergency. They were noted to be stored in their original containers. Expiry dates were recorded as 07/2028.

Fire Safety:

- In date fire extinguishers were available and were fitted with brackets to the walls of the service.
- Fire assembly signs were visible at the front walls of the service and on the wall at the rear of the outdoor play area.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

See Statutory Notice section in relation to Immediate Action Notice IAN0481 served.

1. On day 1 of inspection, in the main care room, children aged between 1 and 2 years of age were observed crawling under 7 highchairs posing a safety risk if the highchairs tipped or fell onto the children. In conversation, staff working with this age group stated that the highchairs were present in the area throughout the day.
2. On day 2 electrical flexes, from a lava lamp and fairy lights, in the rest/quiet area of the Montessori care room were accessible to the children, posing a safety risk.
3. On day 2, equipment in the outdoor play area including the ring of a basketball stand, roof of a high seat back car, back of a seat of a tricycle had cracked and missing plastic pieces, posing a safety risk to the children.

Fire Safety:

The following posed a safety risk to the adults and children.

4. Illuminated fire exit signage was not installed on the first floor posing a safety risk to the children and adults in the event of an emergency.
5. There were no fire doors fitted to the entrances of three rooms in operation on the first floor, posing a risk to the children and adults in the event of an emergency.

Safe Sleep:

6. On day 1 there were no records of 10-minute physical sleep checks available for the children in the 2-3 age group sleeping/resting in the main care room, posing a safety risk to the children. In conversation, staff present in the care room stated that they thought having an adult present in the care room negated the requirement for physical sleep checks to be carried out.
7. At variance to best practice two children under 2 years of age, observed asleep in the main care room, were placed on stackable beds, posing a safety risk to the children. In conversation, staff in the care room

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were unaware that stackable beds are not considered suitable sleep equipment for children under 2 years of age.

8. On day 2, five mats in use for children aged over two years sleeping/resting in the main care room were fitted with covers which were doubled over and were too large for the mats, posing a risk of entanglement to the children sleeping and resting.
9. Mats and stackable beds in use in the main care room were not placed at least 50 centimetres apart posing a safety risk to the children.

Infection Control:

10. Three mattresses in the designated sleep room were not fitted with waterproof covers posing a risk that they would not remain dry and clean while the children slept.
11. Not all perishable food belonging to children in the Montessori care room was stored in the fridge to prevent the food from spoiling. During morning snack time at 10:45 on day 2 the inspector observed staff distribute snacks from the children's bags which included meat filled sandwiches.
12. Two pedal operated bins in the main care room were broken and the bin in the Pre-school sanitary area was not pedal operated, posing a risk of cross infection from the number of children lifting the lids with their hands.

Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. The 7 highchairs in the main care room have been removed and are now stored out of reach of the children. The highchairs will be brought into the care room for mealtimes only and removed immediately when the children are finished their food. New age and stage appropriate chairs have been purchased for the younger children.
2. The fairy lights have been removed and the lava lamp flex has been made inaccessible to the children.
3. The basketball stand, car and tricycle have been removed from the outdoor play area.

Fire Safety:

4. The ongoing electrical and civil works have been completed. Illuminated fire exit signage has now been installed throughout the building.
5. All fire doors and windows have now been fitted and a letter of confirmation of same has been attached from the engineer confirming same.

Safe Sleep:

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6. Physical 10-minute sleep checks are now being carried out and documented by staff on children aged over 2 years of age sleeping and resting in the main care room.
7. Children under 2 years of age now have access to cots in the designated sleep room, ensuring the safety of the children while sleeping/resting on a daily basis. Additional suitable sleep equipment has been placed on order.
8. All sleep equipment is now supplied with the correct bed linen fitted to the size of the mat, bed or cot in use. Staff will ensure that each piece of sleep equipment is supplied with appropriately sized sheets and bedding.
9. Staff have been informed of the need to ensure that all sleep equipment is placed at least 50 centimetres apart in order to prevent the spread of infection.

Infection Control:

10. Three new waterproof mattresses have been purchased along with suitable sleep equipment for children under 2 years of age.
11. Two new large fridges have been purchased to ensure that perishable food is stored correctly.
12. Four new foot pedal bins have been installed to prevent the spread of infection and cross contamination.

Supporting documentation submitted

The following documentation, photographs and receipts were received in the office of the inspectorate;

General Safety:

1. A photograph of the highchairs which were stored out of reach of the children while not in use and a receipt for the new age and stage appropriate chairs.
2. Photographs with the fairy lights removed and the flex from the lava lamp which has been secured.
3. The statement from the registered provider has been accepted.

Fire Safety:

4. A copy of a letter from the engineer was received to confirm that all the necessary civil and electrical works have been completed with photographs of the completed illuminated fire signage lighting installed throughout the service.
5. A copy of a letter from the engineer confirming that all fire conditions including the fitting of the doors and photographs confirming fitting of same.

Safe Sleep:

6. Copies of the 10-minute physical sleep checks were furnished to the inspector on Day 2 of inspection.
7. The inspector observed the children asleep in cots on day 2 of inspection. A copy of a receipt for suitable sleep

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equipment ordered for children aged under 2 years.

8. Photographs of new sheets and bedding for the sleep equipment.

9. The statement from the registered provider has been accepted.

Infection Control:

10. Photographs of the waterproof mattresses and suitable sleep equipment for children under 2 years of age.

11. Photographs of the two new fridges in the care rooms.

12. Photographs of the new four pedal operated, lined and lidded bins in place in the service.

Summary Comment

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider have addressed the non-compliances identified under Regulation 23.

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)
Certificates were available to evidence that six adults in the service had in date First Aid Responder (FAR) training completed along with three additional adults who had paediatric first aid training completed. The staff roster evidenced that there were a minimum of three adults available on both days with FAR training while the children were present in service.

(2)
(a) (b) First aid bags/boxes were available in each care room which were well stocked. These were stored within easy reach of the adults and were available while the children were on the premises.

Part VI - Safety

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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.
- (2) The record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection by-
- (c) an authorised person.
- (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 written record was available of the monthly fire drills completed for the service. The last recorded fire drill was the 25 March 2026.
 - (b) Records were available in relation to the number, type and maintenance of fire-fighting equipment with the annual service dated 04 February 2026. The smoke and fire detection alarm system for the premises had the last annual service dated 05 February 2026.
- (2)
- (c) The monthly fire drills, fire-fighting equipment and smoke and fire detection certificates were open to inspection on the premises.
- (4) Notices were displayed on the walls of the service with the procedures to be followed in the event of fire on the premises.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

Insurance documentation was available which indicated that the service was insured for the number of children attending and the type of service provided by the registered provider.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

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A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-

(b) safe and secure,

(d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required.

Non-Compliance Information

(b) See Statutory Notice section in relation to Improvement Notice: IN0462 served.

(d) The registered provider did not ensure that the premises were maintained and repaired as required:

1. Exposed pipes were visible and accessible in the following areas-

- Children's sanitary/changing area on the ground floor at the fire exit door.
- In the doorless cupboard in the children's sanitary area.
- An upright heating pipe on the floor of the Pre-school care room on the first floor at the external fire exit door.

In discussion, the registered provider stated that the current electrical and civil works are ongoing, when the children are not in the building, to finalise the conditions for completion of the fire certificate.

2. Electrical wiring was visibly hanging down from ceilings throughout the building where the illuminated fire exit signs were being fitted including-

- Pre-school care room on the first floor.
- Children's sanitary/changing area.
- Kitchen on the ground floor at the fire exit doors.

3. Rough edges of plaster board were visible on the frame of the fire door which led to the external fire staircase in place at the rear of the building off the Pre-school care room.

4. There was a doorless storage cupboard in the ground floor children's sanitary/changing room with four pieces of cut off plasterboard, stacked inside the doorless cupboard.

5. Exposed hardened foam, from tiles positioned on the lower wall to the right of the fire exit door, in the children's sanitary area on the ground floor was visible and sticking out from the wall.

6. A panel of wood, located under the wash hand basin in the children's sanitary/changing room on the ground floor, had gaps on both sides. In conversation, the registered provider stated that a vanity unit had been ordered but had not yet been fitted.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(d)

(1) All previous exposed pipes in the following areas have been covered and are no longer accessible by the Children:

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- Children's sanitary/changing area on the ground floor at the fire exit door.
- In the doorless cupboard in the children's sanitary area which has new shelving.
- The heating pipe in the Pre-school care room on the first floor at the external fire exit door.

(2) All illuminate fire exit signs have been fitted in the following areas:

- Pre-school care room on the first floors:
- Children's sanitary/changing area.
- Kitchen on the ground floor at the fire exit doors.

(3) All edges around the fire doors have been plastered including the fire exit door in the Pre-school care room.

(4) The plasterboards were removed from the doorless cupboard and new shelving installed in the sanitary/nappy changing room.

(5) All exposed hardened foam has been removed from the area. The area has now been completely tiled ceiling to floor.

(6) A new vanity unit has been installed in the sink area of the sanitary/changing room on the ground floor

Supporting documentation submitted

(d) (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6); Photographic evidence was received in the office of the inspectorate.

Summary Comment

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider have addressed the non-compliances identified on inspection under Regulation 29 (d).

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 30 - Minimum space requirements

(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) to (6), a registered provider shall ensure that adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.

Non-Compliance Information

- (1) There was inadequate clear floor space available for the work, play and movement of the children registered in the main care room. The care room measured 47.09 square metres where 56.2 square metres were required for the numbers and ages of the children currently registered in the main care room;
- There were 10 children aged 1-2 years registered as full day care requiring 2.8 square metres per child.

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- There were 12 children registered aged from 2-3 years attending on a full day care basis requiring 2.35 square metres per child.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

The following statement was received from the registered provider;

1. A change of circumstances form was submitted to the registration department and permission granted for an increase of numbers and change of use of the sleep room to a care room to accommodate the excess children in the main care room.

Supporting documentation submitted

The following documentation was received in the office of the inspectorate:

1. A copy of the letter from the registration department approving the changes in circumstances dated 04/06/2026 of the increase in numbers and the change of use of the sleep room to a care room on the ground floor.

Summary Comment

The actions taken and evidence submitted by the registered provider have addressed the non-compliance identified under Regulation 30.