

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

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| <b>TUSLA Identifier:</b> | TU2022TY001 |
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| <b>Name of Service:</b> | Busy Bees James Street |
|-------------------------|------------------------|

|                            |                                       |
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| <b>Address of Service:</b> | 9 James Street, Clonmel, Co Tipperary |
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|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| <b>Eircode:</b> | E91 TP22 |
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|                                     |                  |
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| <b>Name of Registered Provider:</b> | Vanessa Moriarty |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Service type:</b> | Sessional |
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| <b>Date of Inspection:</b> | 02/06/2026 |
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|                                   |    |    |    |     |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| <b>No of pre-school children:</b> | AM | 11 | PM | N/A |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|

|                                                 |                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b> | Glenmorgan Building, Ferryhouse, Clonmel, Co Tipperary E91RF38 |
| <b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>                | Antoinette McNamara                                            |
| <b>Title:</b>                                   | 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

Busy Bees James Street was established in 2022 to provide care and education to children aged between 2 and 6 years old. A sessional service is offered, Monday to Friday, 08:30 to 12:00, over 38 weeks of the year. The service operates from the ground floor of a converted end of terrace house. It consists of one large activity room, an outdoor play area and sanitary accommodation. The service is one of several pre-school services operated by the registered provider in South Tipperary. School age care is also provided.

### Staffing

There are four staff working directly with the children in the service. There was a designated person in charge present. The registered provider does not work directly in the service but is available to provide cover if needed. All staff employed held qualifications at a level 5 and above on the National Qualifications Framework 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. 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.

Regulation 9 (1)(a)(b)(2)(a)(b)(c)(d)(4) Management and recruitment,  
Regulation 10 Policies and procedures,

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Regulation 11(1)(3) Staffing levels,  
Regulation 16 (1) (h, i, j, k) (3) Record in relation to pre-school service,  
Regulation 20 (1)(a)(b)(2)(b) Facilities for rest and play,  
Regulation 23 Safeguarding health, safety, and welfare of the child,  
Regulation 25 (1)(2)(a)(b) First aid

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.

### Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the administration manager, person in charge, 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

(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.

#### Compliance Information

(1)(a) There was a designated person in charge and a named deputy who was able to deputise, as required.

(b) A person in charge was present on the day of inspection. From a review of the rosters a person in charge was present daily.

(2) Following a review of previous inspection information, information available on inspection and discussion with the person in charge it was determined that two new staff members had been employed since the previous inspection. In addition, Garda vetting for two staff members and the registered provider whose disclosures were identified as due for renewal were requested for review.

(2)(a) Two written and validated references were available for each person working at the service.

(b) Where past employer references were not available, there were references from sources such as previous schools and colleges.

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(c) Garda vetting was available on file for everyone working in the service. Garda vetting had been renewed, in compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) Not applicable. Review of the curriculum vitae indicated that police vetting was not required.

(4) Certificates of qualifications for the staff working with pre-school children were available on file demonstrating that they held a qualification at level 5 and above on the National Framework of Qualifications.

### 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 assessed for compliance and were deemed to meet the necessary requirements:

- Statement of purpose and function
- Complaints policy
- Managing behaviour policy
- Settling in policy
- Staff training 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.*

*(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) therefore at that reference number is satisfied.*

#### Compliance Information

*(1) The registered provider ensured that there were enough adults to respond to children's individual needs. There were 3 staff directly working with 11 children.*

*(3) The person in charge ensured that the adult to children ratio was maintained. The service exceeded the minimum child to adult ratio required under the regulation.*

### 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;*

*(j) details of any medication administered to a pre-school child attending the service with signed parental consent;*

*(k) details of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.*

*(3) A record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection on the premises, and the documents and records referred to in paragraph (2)(a) shall be open to inspection whether on the premises or elsewhere, by an authorised person.*

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### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (h) Detailed daily attendance of each child was available.
- (i) A detailed staff roster was available.
- (j) Ten medication administration records were sampled and were found to meet the necessary requirements. Written parental consent for staff to administer medication had also been obtained.
- (k) A total of 20 accident and incident records were sampled and deemed satisfactory.
- (3) The written records were available on the premises for inspection by an authorised person.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

#### Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

- (1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-
- (a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and
- (b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.
- (2) A registered provider-
- (a) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that is registered for the first time on or after 30 June 2016, or
- shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.

### Compliance Information

- (1)(a) The indoor space was one large classroom with an entrance hall and sanitary accommodation. The furniture was suitable to the stage of development of the children attending the service, for tabletop activities such as Montessori work, puzzles and eating at snack time. A variety of defined areas of interest were provided for the children to play with. These areas were well developed with a wide range of materials which included a kitchen area, construction area, doll house, and craft area. Low-level shelving provided children with access to a selection of activities such as jigsaws and Montessori work. The walls were decorated with a world map, children's artwork, a family tree and a birthday wall. There was also a visual timetable for the children to see the plan for the day.

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There was space for floor play and an inviting cosy corner available to the children. The service had personalised coat hooks for each child attending the service.

(b) A rest area was available to the children attending the service.

(2) The outdoor space was secure. There was a grass area and concrete area for the children to play. Children had access to a messy play tray with sand, a balance beam, a slide, ride on toys and hula hoops. There was a shed of additional resources available for the rotation of materials.

### 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 premises was adequately secured to prevent children leaving unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining access. The outdoor area was secure. Cleaning agents and hazardous materials were stored inaccessible to children. Radiator covers were present to prevent injury to children. Pinch guards covered the hinges on all doors to prevent injury to children.

##### Infection control:

There was warm running water, liquid soap and paper hand towels available for hand drying throughout the service. There were designated children's toilets available to the children. Handwashing reminders and steps were present in the sanitary accommodation. A tissue station was available to the children in the classroom. Pedal bins were in operation to avoid cross contamination. Perishable foods were stored in a fridge.

##### Administration of medication:

Administration of medicine records were reviewed. These were correctly completed, dated, witnessed by staff and signed by the parents.

##### Fire safety:

Fire exits were found to be unobstructed on the day of inspection.

There were fire evacuation procedures displayed in a prominent area within the service.

Firefighting equipment was present in the service.

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### 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) There were staff trained in First Aid Response (FAR) available to the children attending the service.

(2)(a) There was a suitably equipped first aid box stored in an easily accessible position.

(b) The first aid box was available to the children attending the service.