

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

TUSLA Identifier: TU2015CC363

Name of Service: Shine Centre for Autism

Address of Service: 7 Weston View,
Ballinrea Road,
Carrigaline,
Co. Cork

Email Address: info@shineireland.com

Date Service Registered: 3 0 0 6 2 0 1 6

Name of Registered Service Provider: Mr. Paul Mc Guirk

Type of Service Registered:	Full Day Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Part-Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Date(s) of Inspection: 2 6 0 2 2 0 1 9

No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection: AM 12 PM n/a

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Early Years Inspectorate,
Early Years Services,
Administration Building,
St Mary's Health Campus,
Gurranabraher,
Cork

Inspection undertaken by : Ms. V. McCarthy
Title: Early Years Inspector

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection

Governance	Health Welfare and Development of Child	Safety
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TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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).

Registration Status (completed by the Registration Office):	Registered
Conditions If Applicable	N/A
Additional Notes	
Date of Registration	14 th May 2019

Description of Service	Shine Centre for Autism was first notified in 2013. It is part of a National Organisation and operates a part time service that caters for children attending specialist pre-school early intervention services at the premises. It provides care to children aged three years upwards and uses varied methods and pedagogy such as Applied Behaviour Analysis, Montessori, Picture Exchange Communication System, Lámh, Personal and Life Skills Training and scheduling. The service is currently registered to cater up to a maximum of 18 children at any one time on the premises. It provides a morning and afternoon session and the hours of operation are 09.00 to 13.00 hours and 13.30 to 17.30 hours Monday to Friday.
Premises	Shine Centre for Autism is a service that is carried out in part of a two storey detached house that is located in a residential area on the suburbs of Carrigaline town. Downstairs, there are two playrooms, namely Classroom (1) and Classroom (2), a Play Therapy room and a Social Skills room. Upstairs, there is a Sensory room and a Ball Play room that are used by the children. The building was purposely adapted as a childcare facility for children with special needs. There is an office area used only by the pre-school adults located upstairs. The other half of the house is kept secured from the Pre-School service and is used by the Organisation for administrative purposes. There is a developed outdoor play area provided to the rear of the premises.
Staffing	There were 16 adults attached to the service on the day of inspection including three unpaid adults of which one was less than 18 years of age. The Registered Provider is not service based. There are 12 adults including a Behavioural Specialist working directly with the children.
Methodology	<p>The inspection was an unannounced Focused Inspection to assess compliance with the Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The Inspection focused on regulations under two themes; Governance, and Safety.</p> <p>The findings on inspection based on information obtained through examination of documentation, direct observation, and discussion with relevant staff are documented in the Inspection report and presented to the Registration Panel for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving continued registration. The Inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including: clarity;</p>

	completeness; and, compliance with administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the co-operation of the Person in Charge, adults and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 - Management and Recruitment

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that—
- the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,
 - 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—
- consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,
 - consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,
 - 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
 - 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.
- (6) Paragraph (4) shall not apply before 1 September 2021 to a person who—
- has signed a declaration on or before 30 June 2016 to the effect that he or she intends to retire from employment in a pre-school service before 1 September 2021, and
 - is in possession of a letter from the Minister confirming that paragraph (4) shall not apply to him or her before that date
- (6A is inserted by S.I. No.632 of 2016 CHILD CARE ACT 1991 (EARLY YEARS SERVICES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016 which states; Regulation 9 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations (S.I. No. 221 of 2016) is amended - in paragraph (4), by the substitution of "paragraphs (5), (6) and (6A)" for "paragraphs (5) and (6)", and (b) by the insertion of the following paragraph after paragraph (6): "
- (6A) Paragraph (4) shall not apply to an employee of a registered provider where - (a) the registered provider receives funding for the employment of the employee pursuant to a scheme funded by the Minister and known as the Access and Inclusion Model, and (b) the employment of the employee is for the purpose of providing support, pursuant to the scheme referred to in subparagraph (a), for a child attending the service to enable the child to participate in the programme known as the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) funding Programme."

Compliance Information:	<p>(1)</p> <p>(a) The service had a named designated Person in Charge and named deputies who took charge as required.</p> <p>(b) The Person in Charge and deputies were on the premises on the day of inspection.</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(a) Twenty-five of the 32 references and required validations in respect of the 16 adults were from past employers.</p> <p>(b) Seven of the 32 references and required validations in respect of the seven adults were from sources other than past employers.</p> <p>(c) Garda vetting disclosures were available on file in respect of 15 of the 16 adults. One adult was aged less than 18 years and a Garda vetting disclosure was not required.</p> <p>(d) Police vetting was available for three locations in respect of two adults that had lived outside the jurisdiction for periods longer than six months.</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>The 12 adults that worked directly with the children held a major award in Early Childhood Care as listed on the National Qualifications Framework. Copies of the Child Care Qualifications were available on file in respect of each of these adults.</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(b) The 12 adults that worked directly with the children held their child care qualifications before the date of registration.</p> <p>(6)</p> <p>(a) Not applicable as no adult had signed a declaration stating that they intended to retire before the 1st September 2021.</p> <p>(b) Funding from the Minister as listed under (6)(b) was not being received by the service.</p> <p>Curriculum Vitae and Proof of Identification in the form of passport or driving licence were available in respect of each of the 16 adults.</p>
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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 Person in Charge ensured at all times, that there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children.
- (2)
On the day of inspection there were 12 children aged over three years attending the service with eight adults directly caring for them. The Person in Charge remained office based and was available to assist with the Inspector's queries. The adult child ratio exceeded the requirement of 1:11.
- (8)
(a) The register indicated that at least two adults were on the premises at all times.

HEALTH WELFARE & DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD

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 at the service. All the meals and snacks were provided to the children by the children's parents or guardians. There was a fridge available on the premises in the kitchen to store the children's perishable food and it was noted by the Inspector that it was used for same. The children were provided with a small snack break at a time that suited each child's need between 10.00 and 11.00 hours where they ate chopped fruit, sliced vegetables, and bread or rice cakes. At 11.40 hours,

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

the children had a second snack/meal where they sat and ate together their lunch or sandwich that was provided to them by their parents or guardians. It was acknowledged that many of the children were restricted to eating specific foods because of their medical conditions and that the adults liaised closely with the parents and guardians regarding the children's snacks and meals. A tray with the children's water bottles was freely available in each playroom and the adults supervised and assisted the children as required in accessing them. Crockery was provided to the children at their meal and snack breaks.

- The children were supervised and assisted as required when using the toilets. The adults attended regularly to the children who wore nappies or pull ups and it was observed that each child appeared content and settled when these procedures were being carried out.
- The children were dressed appropriately in coats and hats for outdoor play and were assisted by the adults with the task of putting on their own coat and hat.
- Hand-washing by the children was supported and encouraged by the adults prior to the children eating and after them using the toilet and outdoor play.
- The children's behaviour was managed in a competent and positive way at the service. The children participated in strategies such as Applied Behaviour Analysis and Schedules and were praised, reinforced and reassured throughout the morning by the adults whilst participating with these activities. A tailor made care plan for each pre-school child contained detailed strategies on how to assist the individual pre-school child to manage his or her behaviour as appropriate to his or her age and stage of development. The pre-school children received individual attention from the adults during the morning while working at their individual work stations or carrying out group activities that nurtured their development and socialisation.
- The adults listened and spoke positively to the children and sat with them during their table top activities and meal breaks. The children were encouraged positively in the group activities they participated in such as story-telling about the egg sandwich, picture card stories and jigsaw play.
- Children had sufficient space to move about freely in their respective Classroom. The children were also facilitated to participate in activities that were available in the Sensory room, Ball Pool room, Play Therapy room and the Social Skills room. The two Classrooms were laid out to facilitate individual work and some group activities. The additional rooms were well laid out to facilitate the development of social skills, relaxation, individual assessments, meetings and play therapy.

Physical and Material Environment

- The two Classrooms, Sensory room, Ball Pool area, the Play Therapy room and the Social Skills room all appeared bright, clean, spacious and were

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

maintained in good condition. The rooms were well laid out into interest, activity, work and rest areas. They were designed to meet the individual needs required by each pre-school child and provided an environment that facilitated high quality care provision.

- The range of work activities, play materials, toys and equipment such as the Ball Pool area and special lighting in the Sensory room provided a wide range of diverse and enriching experiences for the children.
- The arts and crafts materials, jigsaws, memory cards, pegs, matching games and building blocks were stored in locked presses and were presented to the children one at a time to enable them to focus and not get distracted.
- Materials and toys that were available to the children were stored on low easy accessible shelving.
- There were individual wall hooks and shelving in the main reception area to store the children's personal belongings and outdoor clothing.
- A secure outdoor area provided with a shock absorbing ground surface, garden area, low slide, climbing pole, bird houses and colourful blue secured bridge were available. There was a good variety of push and ride on toys provided and when not in use they were stored in the locked shed. On the day of the inspection, the pre-school children accessed the outdoor play area and the adults supervised them and assisted them with the activities they participated in such as using the scooters and the climbing pole.

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 main entrance door to the service was secured by a lock.
- The outdoor play area was secured by high fences and by secured gates.
- All toys and play equipment in each room and in the outdoor play area were observed to be good condition.
- The water at the children's wash hand basins was thermostatically controlled to a temperature of no greater than 43°C.
- The radiators were fitted with protective covers.
- The fluorescent lighting was covered with protective covers.
- The handrail positioned beside the stairway was fitted at child height.
- Stair gates were fitted at the top and foot of the stairs.
- Keys were store on high hooks adjacent to the respective door.
- Windows were fitted with window restrictors.
- The internal doors were fitted with hinge protective covers.
- Visibility strips were provided on all low lying glass doors.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 23 - Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child

INFECTION CONTROL:

- Thermostatically controlled hot water, paper towels and liquid soap were available in each toilet/nappy changing area for hygienic hand washing and hand drying.
- Disposable gloves and disposable aprons were provided for the adults when attending to children who required nappy changes.
- Hand washing by the pre-school children was carried out by the children pre eating and post using the toilet and outdoor play.
- A fridge was available in the kitchen and it was noted by the Inspector that it was used to store the children's perishable foods.
- The children's coats were kept stored off the floor on wall hooks.
- The children's bags were kept stored off the floor on wall hooks or shelving located in the main reception area.
- Cleaning schedules were available for inspection.
- All toys and play equipment in each room used by the children and outdoor play area were observed to be clean.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION:

- The administration of medication was not observed by the Inspector on the day of the inspection. An Administration of Medication policy and a record used for documenting any medicines given were available on the premises. All medicines were stored in a secured wall cabinet that was fitted high on a wall out of children's reach.

SAFE SLEEP:

- No child was observed to require a sleep by the Inspector on the day of the inspection. Sleep facilities consisting of a stackable bed and a supply of appropriate linen were available if a child did require a sleep. A Sleep policy was available on the premises.

FIRE SAFETY:

- The service carried out monthly fire drills.

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.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 25 - First Aid

Compliance Information:	<p>(1) The service provided evidence that four of the adults had trained in first aid for children and that one of these adults was on the premises at all times for the children attending the pre-school service.</p> <p>(2) (a) There were two first aid boxes provided and each one was stored on a high wall bracket out of the children's reach in each of the Classrooms. (b) The fully equipped first aid boxes were available in the pre-school service at all times.</p>
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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 fire fighting 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:	<p>(1) (a) There were records of monthly fire drills carried out available on file. The last fire drill was carried out on 28/01/2019.</p> <p>(b) A record of the number, type and maintenance of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms was available. It was recorded that the fire equipment was last serviced in August 2018 and that the wired smoke alarms were serviced in February 2019.</p> <p>(4) The fire evacuation procedure for the service which contained details in relation to the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed at each fire exit door.</p>
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