

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D:	TU2015CC221
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Name of Service	Dreamers Creche Ltd T/A Little Angel's
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Address of Service:	The Orchard, Castlerock, Midleton, Co Cork P25K516
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Email Address:	judylynch21@gmail.com
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Name of Registered Provider:	Judy Lynch
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change:	Increase the number of children that can be accommodated in Preschool Room 1
Proposed Number of Children:	85
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Increase the maximum number of children (ECCE) catered for at any one time in Preschool room 1 from 15 to 22.
Registered change:	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 78 to 85.

Date of Inspection:	0	4	1	2	2	0	2	3
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Inspection undertaken by:	Ms. M. O'Reilly
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Administration Building, St Mary's Health Campus, Gurrabraher, Cork, T23X440
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Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

Note: For Office use only, to be completed by Registration Office

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 85 Children
Date of Registration	6 th December 2023

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Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(D) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Description of Service	Dreamers Creche Ltd T/A Little Angel's is a registered privately owned early years service in operation since 2001. This service provides education and care to children from 0 to 6 years offering a choice of sessional, part time or full day care service and the children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme. A school aged care service is also in operation. The current opening hours are from 8am to 6pm each day Monday to Friday.
Premises	Dreamers Creche Ltd T/A Little Angel's operates from a single storey purpose-built childcare facility located in a suburban estate in the outskirts of Midleton town in Co Cork. There are five playrooms in operation: an infant, a toddler, a Montessori and preschool room 1 in the main building. Pre-school room 2 is located in a separate prefabricated building to the rear side of the creche. There are adequate nappy changing and toilet facilities for the children. There are an adequate number of adult toilets in the facility. There is a designated outdoor play area to the rear and side of the existing building. This fit for purpose inspection is in relation to Preschool Room 1 which has been extended and renovated. The registered provider is proposing to increase the number of children at any one time in the room (aged from 2 years eight months to 6 years ECCE) attending a sessional service from 15 to 22.
Staffing	The service proposes to have a minimum of two adults who will work directly with the children in the Preschool Room 1. The staff will hold a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education
Methodology	<p>The inspection was an announced 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 the following themes; Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises.</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 taken into consideration when making a decision in relation to registering the change in circumstance. 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.</p>
Acknowledgements	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.

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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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service has designated persons in charge and named persons who are able to deputise as required.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) Pre-school Room 1 was in operation when the fit for purpose inspection was carried out. There were 13 children aged from 2 years 8 months and over in attendance in Preschool Room 1 with 3 adults in attendance. In the afternoon there was 1 adult in attendance with 7 children attending full day care service. It is proposed that a minimum of two adults will be employed who will work directly with the proposed children. (ECCE)

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—*
- (b) *of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises on or after 30 June 2016, 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.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, shall ensure that—*
- (a) *a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises or*
 - (b) *where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) There are low shelves provided in the playroom that are accessible to the children. The shelves are stocked with a large selection of activities, equipment and play materials that are all functioning and maintained in good condition. For outdoor play it is proposed that the children will have access to the outdoor play area that already exists that has an all-weather and cement surface. Access to this area will be on a rotation system with the children in the other playrooms.

(b) There is soft seating provided in the playroom

(2)(a), (3)(a) The children have access to an outdoor play area located within the grounds of the facility. The outdoor play area will be adequately secured when the children are playing outdoors.

(3)(b) Not applicable as the children have access to an outdoor play area on the grounds of the facility.

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Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 22 – Food and Drink

A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- The service promoted healthy eating and all the food and drink will be provided by the parents/guardians.
- There was adequate refrigeration present in the service for the storage of perishable foods.
- There was a microwave located in the playroom to reheat the hot meal provided by the parents for the children attending part time and full day care service.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

General Safety:

- The main entrance door to the service was adequately secured to reduce the risk of unauthorised access by a person onto the premise or the leaving of an unsupervised child.
- All toys and play equipment in the proposed playroom are safe and in good condition.
- The openable windows in the playroom and toilet facility have locks and are inaccessible to children.
- The cleaning equipment and materials will be stored on a shelf located at adult height in an area out of children’s reach in the playroom and toilet facilities.
- There was no evidence of loose and accessible cables in the room
- Two adults in the service held certified, up to date First Aid Responder (FAR). A staff member will be available to the children at all times to offer first aid if necessary.
- The first aid box in the room is stored in an area out of children’s reach.
- The emergency fire exit door was unobstructed at time of inspection.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were two stand-alone storage units provided for the children’s belongings which includes bags and coats in the playroom. <p>Infection Control:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cleaning template schedules were available for inspection and demonstrated the service has daily specific cleaning records. • There was hot water, liquid soap and paper hand towels available at all sinks in both the adult and children’s toilets and in the playroom. This ensured the children and staff could wash their hands as required. The playroom and children’s toilet facilities were well ventilated with openable windows in both areas. • All rubbish was disposed of in pedal operated lidded bins.
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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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) There was written evidence that two of the staff in the service held certified, up to date First Aid Responder (FAR) training certificates.

(2) (a)(b) The first aid box was stored out of children’s reach. The first aid box was adequately stocked and readily accessible by staff.

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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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) (a) The requirement is met in relation to the provision of a form for recording monthly fire drills. It was recorded that the last fire drill took place on the 20th November 2023.

(b) A record of the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the wired smoke alarm is available on file.

(4) The service has a designated assembly point in the event of a fire.

A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was on display.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

There was a copy of the updated insurance cover. The expiry date on the current insurance certificate is the 27th March 2023.

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Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 – Premises

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

- (a) of sound and stable structure,
- (b) safe and secure,
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated,
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met. Preschool Room 1 is located in the main building. It is proposed that Preschool Room 1 will cater for children aged 2 years 8 months to 5 years operating a sessional service (ECCE) in the morning and providing a full day care service and school aged care service each evening.

(a) No mould or cracks are visible.

(b) The entrance door to the early years' service is adequately secured to prevent access by an unauthorised adult.

(c) There are a number of openable windows at in the proposed playroom and in the adult and children's toilet facilities. There are an adequate number of fluorescent lights fitted with covers in the proposed playroom and toilet facilities. The playroom air temperature and toilet area air temperatures were recorded at 20°C during the inspection.

(d) Cleaning schedule templates are available, and all the play materials were in good condition.

(e) There are two designated toilets and two wash hand basins provided for the proposed 22 children that will be in attendance each morning and for a maximum of 17 early years children (FDC) in the afternoon.

There are two designated toilets and wash hand basins available for use by the adults. The premise is serviced by a public sewage system and the water source is from a public supply.

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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.*
- (2) *A registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that the minimum amount of clear floor space specified in column (3) of Schedule 7 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Schedule in respect of the age range of children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is available for each child in that age range attending the service.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a sessional pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre shall ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) & (2)

Preschool Room 1 measured 39.44 square meters. Adequate floor space is available in the proposed playroom for the work, play and movement of 22 (ECCE) children in the service with a minimum of 2 adults directly attending to the children in the morning. Adequate floor space is available in the proposed playroom for the work, play and movement of a maximum of 17 children aged between 2 years 8 months and 6 years attending full day care in the afternoon with a minimum of 3 adults directly attending to the children. The registered provider stated that a proposed school aged care service will be in operation in the afternoon in conjunction with the early years service.

(3) The floor space of 1.818 square meters applies per each early years child attending for the morning session. Therefore, the space allows up to 22 preschool children.