

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D:	TU2015CC321
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Name of Service	Páistí Preschool
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Address of Service:	Kinsale Road Accommodation Centre Kinsale Road, Cork, T12T927
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Email Address:	wallarooplayschool@gmail.com
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Name of Registered Provider:	Karolina Wieczorek
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time		Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:	Change in the age profile of children catered for from 2 – 6 years to children aged between 18 months – 5 years
Proposed Number of Children:	17 children
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	18 months – 5 years
Registered change:	18 months – 5 years

Date of Inspection:	2	3	0	8	2	0	2	3
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Inspection undertaken by:	V. McCarthy
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, Administration Building, St Mary's Health Campus, Gurrabraher, Cork

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Sessional Service, age profile 18 months – 5 years
Date of Registration	30 th August 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	Páistí Preschool is a nonprofit community service which provides sessional care service to children currently aged between 2 and 6 years of age. It is proposed that the service will cater for children aged between 18 months and 5 years of age. The service operates both a morning and afternoon session daily with opening times between 9:30 to 12:30 hours and 14:30 to 17:00 hours.
Premises	Páistí Preschool operates from a room based in the Kinsale Road Accommodation Centre that is located on the suburbs of Cork city. The care room was specifically adapted as a childcare setting. There are toilet/nappy changing facilities for the children's use and a secured storeroom situated beside the care room. There is an enclosed area on the grounds of the premises that is used by the sessional service for outdoor play activities
Staffing	There are 2 adults attached to the service that work directly with the children. The service co-ordinator is available as required and works between this and a sister service also based in Cork. The registered provider is not service based.
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 co-ordinator, person in charge and staff 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 a record of the named person in charge and name of the adult who can deputise as required displayed on the notice board in the main foyer.

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.

(b)

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

An adequate number of adults will be available at the premises when it reopens post the summer leave. There are 2 adults attached to the service that will work directly with the children. The person in charge informed the inspector that even though the service is registered to cater for up to 17 children it is proposed that there will be less than 12 children on the premises for the year 2023 to 2024 of which 2 children will be aged between 18 months and 2 years. The person in charge informed the inspector that she is aware that the adult child ratio for children aged one to two years is 1:5 and the adult child ratio for children aged 2 to 3 years is 1:6. A third adult is available to work directly with the children if required.

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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.
- (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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1)(a) The shelving and containers in the care room are furnished with a wide selection of toys and play materials that are all functioning and maintained in good condition.
- (b) There are adequate rest facilities consisting of soft padded mats and cushions available in the care room. There is 1 standard cot and a supply of linen available for any child aged less than two years that may require a sleep.
- (3)(a) The children have access to an outdoor play area. The perimeter of the outdoor play area is secured by high fencing and secured gates.

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.

All food for the children's mid-morning/midafternoon break is provided by the children's respective parents and guardians. A fridge is available to store the children's perishable food. A supply of appropriate crockery and cutlery is available for children's use at their snack breaks. Drinking water is available for any child that may require a drink. The children's respective parents/guardians will provide the children's bottles of milk/formula as required. The service adheres to a Healthy Eating policy.

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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.

- The main entrance door to the care room is secured to reduce the risk of unauthorised access by a person onto the premises or the leaving of an unsupervised child.
- The outdoor play area is secured by high fencing and secured gate that reduce the risk of unauthorised access by a person onto the premises or the leaving of an unsupervised child.
- All cleaning agents are stored on high shelving out of children’s reach.
- All toys and play equipment are noted to be safe and in good condition.
- Liquid soap, paper towels and pedal operated bins are provided, adjacent to each of the children’s and adult’s wash hand basins.
- The temperature of the water at the wash hand basins is thermostatically controlled to a temperature of no greater than 43°C. The water from the hot water taps was recorded at 33.4°C on the day of inspection.
- Wall hooks are provided in the care room for the storage of children’s coats and personal belongings.
- Flexes and leads are not accessible to the children.
- The emergency exit doors are kept unobstructed.
- The high shelving units in the care room are securely anchored.

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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)

The inspector noted that 1 adult has up to date First Aid Response (FAR) training and that a second adult has been enrolled for FAR training during September 2023.

(2)

There is a fully equipped first aid box stored on a high shelf that is out of children's reach.

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) A record of monthly fire drills carried out at the premises is available on file. The last fire drill was carried out prior to summer leave on 01 June 2023.

(b) There is a record available on file regarding the number and type of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises. The fire extinguishers were last serviced during November 2023 and the wired smoke alarm was serviced on 16 August 2023.

(4)

There are notices to be followed in the event of a fire displayed throughout the premise. A designated assembly point marked by clear signage is available to the front of the premises.

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Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

An insurance certificate with details is available on file. The service is insured for up to 17 children attending sessional care. The insurance refers to details about public liability cover and the expiry date which is 27 March 2024.

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.

(a)

The premise is a modular/prefabricated structure that appears to be of sound and stable structure.

(b)

The entrance to the main premises has been provided with a security person and the main entrance at the premises has been provided with a serviced reception office. The care room is secured to prevent unauthorised access by a person or the leaving of an unsupervised child. The windows in the care room are fitted with restrictors. A perimeter fence and secured gates surround the outdoor play area. The premise is connected to the public water supply and public sewage system.

(c)

The service is heated by means of electric heating. The care room has a mixture of ceiling lights and natural lighting by use of windows.

On the day of inspection, the air room temperature was recorded at 18°C.

(d)

The care room is maintained in clean and good condition. Detailed cleaning schedules are available for use by the staff at the service.

(e) The children have access to 1 toilet cubicle and to a separate nappy changing cubicle that are both positioned directly off the care room.

There is 1 toilet for use by the adults on the premises. Therefore, there is an adequate number of toilets, nappy changing units, and wash hand basins for the registered 17 children on the premise.

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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.*

(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.*

(4) *Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—*

(a) a sessional pre-school service, and

(b) a full day care service or a part-time day care service, or both, the minimum clear floor space applicable for the duration of the sessional preschool service in respect of the children attending that service shall be the floor space specified in paragraph (3).

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(3)(4)

The care room was measured at 58.48m².

The minimum space requirement for each child aged 1 to 2 years is 2.8m², for children aged 2 to 3 years is 2.35m² and for a child aged 3 years and over is 1.818 square metres whilst attending Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE) service.

The service has adequate space for the registered 17 early years children at the premises depending on the number and age of the children catered for at any one time.