

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015CC428

Name of Service Tiny Toes Pre-School

Address of Service: Kerry Road, Tower, Co Cork, T23 RR02

Email Address: triciabuckleyoneill@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Patricia Buckley

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time	✓	Sessional	
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change: Adding additional service type to one of the playrooms- adding a part time service.

Proposed Number of Children: Sessional service = 18 children
Part time service = 14 children

Recommended Change Following Inspection: The service proposes to provide a part time service in Playroom 1

Registered change: Change of playroom 1 from sessional to part time and sessional

Date of Inspection:	1	7	1	0	2	0	2	3
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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

Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part Time / Sessional Service for 39 Children
Date of Registration	25 th October 2023

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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	Tiny Toes Pre-School is a registered privately owned early years' service in operation since 2000. This service currently provides education and care to children from 2 to 6 years offering a choice of sessional in one room and a sessional and part time service in the second room. The service also caters for the children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme. The current opening hours are Room 1- 9am 12pm and 12:30 to 3.30pm, Room 2 - 9am to 2pm each day Monday to Friday.
Premises	Tiny Toes Pre-School operates from two rooms. Playroom 1 is located in the registered providers private dwelling and playroom 2 is located in a newly built stand-alone single storey building located on site. The service is located in a residential rural area in Tower in Co Cork. There are adequate children's toilets and nappy changing facilities and one adult toilet in the facility. There is a designated outdoor play area to the rear and side of the existing buildings. This fit for purpose inspection is in relation to Playroom 1 where the registered provider is proposing to offer an additional service to this room. Currently the service operates a morning and afternoon sessional service. The registered provider proposes to offer a part time service as well as a morning sessional in the room (children aged from 2 years 8 months to 6 years) ECCE.
Staffing	The service proposes to have two to three adults who will work directly with the children in Playroom 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.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

(1)(a) The service has a designated persons in charge and a named person 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:

(1) Playroom 1 was in operation when the fit for purpose inspection was carried out. There were 14 children(ECCE) aged over 2 years 8 months with three adults in attendance. It is proposed that two to three adults will be employed who will work directly with a maximum of 18 children (ECCE) attending sessional service and 14 children attending a part time service.

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

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(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 artificial grass surface. Access to this area will be on a rotation system with the children in the other playroom.</p> <p>(b) There is child size soft seating provided in the playroom. There are stackable cots with individual accompanying bed linen for the children who want to sleep while attending the service.</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(3)(b) Not applicable as the children have access to an outdoor play area on the grounds of the facility.</p>
-------------------------	---

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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All food is provided by the parents. • There is a healthy eating policy in place. • There is adequate refrigeration present in the service for the storage of perishable foods.
-------------------------	--

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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>General Safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 are at a high level and inaccessible to children. • The cleaning equipment and materials will be stored on a shelf located in an area out of children’s reach in the playroom and toilet facilities.
-------------------------	---

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

- There was no evidence of loose and accessible cables in the room.
 - Two adults have up to date first aid certificates and 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.
 - Safe storage is provided for the children’s belongings which includes bags and coats on wall hooks on the wall of the playroom.
- Infection Control:**
- There was thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap and paper hand towels available at all wash hand basins in the service. This ensured the children and staff could wash their hands as required. The playroom and toilet facilities were well ventilated through openable windows at adult height.
 - All rubbish was disposed of in pedal operated lidded bins.

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—
- is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and
 - 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.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 26 – Fire Safety Measures

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of—
- any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and
 - 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 record for recording monthly fire drills.

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

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(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 in the service.

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 current insurance cover on site. The expiry date on the current insurance certificate is the 27th 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.
Preschool Room 1 is located in a domestic residence. It is proposed that Preschool Room 1 will cater for children aged between 2 to 6 years operating a sessional service (ECCE) and a part time service.

- (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 adult height in the proposed playroom and children's sanitary 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 19°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 maximum number of children = 18 at any one time that will be in attendance in the sessional service and for the 14 children that will be in attendance in the part time service.

There is a designated toilet and wash hand basin available for use by the adults in the service.
The premise is serviced by a public sewage system and the water source is from a public supply.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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) Playroom 1 measured 33.77 square meters. Adequate floor space is available in the proposed playroom for the work, play and movement of 18 (ECCE) children in the service with 2 to 3 adults directly attending to the children in the morning sessional service. The room can accommodate a maximum of 14 children attending the part time service. The floor space of 2.30 square meters applies per each early years child attending the part time service in this room.

(3) The floor space of 1.818 square meters applies per each preschool child attending for the morning session. Therefore, the space allows up to a maximum of 18 early years children.