

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015CE093

Name of Service Loughgraney Kids Corner

Address of Service: Flagmount, Caher, Feakle, Co. Clare V94 YT52

Email Address: lkccchildcarecentre@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Thomas O'Mara

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change: Increase in number of children in attendance from 59 to 70 pre-school children

Proposed Number of Children: 70

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Approve increase to 70

Registered change: Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 59 to 70

Date of Inspection: 2 5 0 7 2 0 2 3

Inspection undertaken by: M. Ní Nialláin

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, Quality and Regulation Directorate,
Tusla Child & Family Agency, Station Road Primary Care Cent
Station Road, Ennis Co. Clare.

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 70 Children
Date of Registration	2 nd 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	Loughraney Kids Corner is a full day childcare service which first opened in 1997. It is operated by a community based limited company. It is registered to cater for 59 pre-children from birth to 6 years. The service operates from 07.30 – 18.00 Monday to Friday.
Premises	The service was a purpose-built childcare facility. This building was a two-storey structure with childcare provided in two playrooms at ground floor level and in one playroom at first floor level. The playroom on the first floor was not in use on the day of inspection. A staff room was located at first floor level. Children had access to two separate sleep rooms. A kitchen was available in the two playrooms at ground floor level. An enclosed outdoor play area was located at the side and front of the premises and was subdivided for the different age groups of children.
Staffing	The manager and five adults were supervising 15 pre-school children on the day of the Fit for Purpose inspection. The registered provider does not work in the service.
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 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 was met.

(1)(a)

The service manager is the designated person in charge on a daily basis and there was a named person 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.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—

(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Requirement met:

The requirement was met.

(1) The minimum ratio of adults supervising children was maintained at all times for the number and age range of children in attendance. There were 15 pre-school present at the time of inspection being supervised by 6 adults.

(8) (b) Not applicable as this is a full day care service.

(c) Not applicable as two adults were observed to be present in the service for the duration of the inspection.

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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.
- (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

Requirement met:

The requirement was met.

(1)

(a) Both the indoor and outdoor environments was suitably resourced for the number of children in attendance.

(b) The service had two sleep rooms equipped with standard cots for the children to rest and sleep.

(2)(b) Not applicable, as the service did not move premises on or after the 30th of June 2016.

(3)(a) Two suitable, safe and secure outdoor areas were available leading from the playrooms. One outdoor area was partially covered which accommodated play in all weather conditions.

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 was met.

The service had a healthy eating policy and provided the food and drinks for all the children in attendance. The food was served from the kitchens in both playrooms on the ground floor. The children were offered their drinks throughout the day.

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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 was met.

General Safety:

- The entrance and exit doors into the service were secure thus preventing children from exiting the premises unsupervised and prohibiting unauthorised persons from entering the service.

Infection Control:

- Hand washing facilities were available to the pre-school children attending and the adults working in the service. Hot water, liquid soap and paper hand towels were provided.
- The service was clean and well maintained.
- Play materials and equipment were observed to be maintained in a safe condition for the pre-school children attending the service.
- Cleaning agents and equipment were stored in a suitably secured area.

Fire Safety:

- The designated fire exit routes from the playrooms were accessible.
- A fire evacuation procedure was available demonstrating guidelines on evacuating the service in the event of a fire.
- A fire assembly point was identified in the outdoor area.

Safe Sleep:

- Two sleep rooms were available and standard cots were provided. Sleeping children were monitored and a log maintained.

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 was met:

(1) Two adults had valid First Aid Responder course certificates available for inspection and the remainder of the staff had valid Paediatric First Aid certification.

(2)(a) The registered provider ensured that suitably equipped first aid boxes were available in a conspicuous position in the playrooms.

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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 was met.

(1)(a) A written record for the completed monthly fire drills was available on the premises.

(b) A record was available demonstrating the number, type and maintenance of the fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises. The firefighting equipment was serviced on the 1st of October 2022 and the smoke alarm system was serviced on the 19th July 2023.

(4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire in the pre-school service was available.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirement was met.

There was adequate insurance cover available in the service for 70 pre-school children who propose to attend.

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 was met:

- (a) The premises appeared to be sound and stable.
- (b) The service entrance and exit doors were adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry.

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- (c) The service was adequately lit, heated, and ventilated. The lighting was provided by natural and electrical means. The sanitary facilities and playrooms were ventilated by natural means of ventilation.
- (d) The service was maintained in a clean manner.
- (e) There was an adequate number of toilets and wash hand basins in the children's sanitary accommodation for the proposed number of children that will be in attendance. There was an adequate number of adult toilets and wash hand basins available also.

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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement was met:

(1) The service submitted a plan to the registration office outlining the proposed number of pre-school children that may be accommodated in each playroom as follows:

- Pre-school/Afterschool room (Ground Floor)- 22 children. The space available measured 87.41m² approximately.
- Baby/Toddler Room (Ground Floor) -15 children. The space available measured 70.42m² approximately.
- Project Room (First Floor) -22 children. The space available measured 48.29m² approximately.
- Proposed new Pre-school Room (First Floor) - 11 children. The space available measured 32.11m² approximately.

The premises can accommodate the proposed number of 70 pre-school children in these four rooms Pre-school/Afterschool room (Ground Floor), Baby/Toddler room (Ground Floor), Project room (First Floor) and proposed new Pre-school room (First Floor).

(2) The minimum amount of clear floor space per child will be available on the premises as set out in this regulation.