

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015CE117

Name of Service Rockmount Montessori

Address of Service: 21, Rockmount Manor, Ballybeg, Kilrush Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95A2WY

Email Address: edelocallaghan@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Edel O' Callaghan

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

Proposed change: Increase in number of children in attendance from 18 to 22 pre-school children

Proposed Number of Children: 22

Recommended Change Following Inspection: 22

Registered change: 22 Children

Date of Inspection:	1	0	0	8	2	0	2	3
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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 Centre, 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:	Sessional, 22 children
Date of Registration	25 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	This early years service opened in 2007. It is a privately operated sessional service. The service proposes to cater for a maximum of twenty-two pre-school children from the age of 2 years and 8 months to 5 years and offers sessional care and education. The service is open from 09.00hrs to 12.00hrs, Monday to Friday.
Premises	The service operates in two rooms in a family home in a housing estate in the town of Ennis, Co Clare. A spacious outdoor play area is provided at the rear of the premises for the children.
Staffing	The registered provider facilitated the fit for purpose Inspection. The service was closed for summer holidays.
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 who was present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff

 An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach Child and Family Agency	Child and Family Agency Act 2013 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016	Version 05 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC)	2 of 8
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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 will be maintained at all times for the number and age range of children in attendance. There are 22 pre-school children registered to attend the service in September 2023 and they will be supervised by 3 adults.

(8)(c) Not applicable as two adults will be present in the service for the duration of the session.

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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 registered to attend the service in September 2023.
 - (b)The service had facilities for the children to rest.
 - (2)(b) Not applicable, as the service did not move premises on or after the 30th of June 2016.
 - (3)(a) A suitable, safe and secure outdoor area was available leading from both pre-school rooms.

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 parents will provide the food and drink for their child. A fridge was provided for the storage of perishable items.

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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 pre-school rooms 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:

- Rest facilities were available on soft couches should children require rest.

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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 was met:

- (1) One adult had a valid First Aid Responder course, and a second adult had a valid Paediatric First Aid certification.
- (2)(a) The registered provider ensured that suitably equipped first aid box was available in the service if required.

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 firefighting 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 firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises. The firefighting equipment and the smoke alarm system was serviced on an annual basis.
- (4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire in the pre-school service was available.

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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 was met.

There was adequate insurance cover available in the service for 22 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.
- (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.

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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.*

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 the service.

- Proposed new Pre-school Room; 4 children. The space available measured 8m² approximately. This was in addition to the space provided for 18 pre-school children in the other existing pre-school room.

The premises can accommodate the proposed number of 22 pre-school children in the two rooms Pre-school rooms.

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