

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015CE148

Name of Service Toddle Inn

Address of Service: Bru Na Sionna, Shannon, Co. Clare

Email Address: toddleinn@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Cora Devaney

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: Change in the number of children the service can accommodate to 99

Proposed Number of Children: 99

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Increase to 99 children am during ECCE hours. Changing to 86 children each evening when children revert to part time or full-time hours.

Registered change: Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 80 to 99 (Max 86 Part Time or Full Day)

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

Inspection undertaken by: M Riordan, E Browne

Title: Early Years Inspectorate

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: 2nd Floor Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick.

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care/Part Time/Sessional Service for 99 Children (Max 86 Part Time or Full Day)
Date of Registration	24 th March 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	Toddle Inn is a private, full day childcare service located in the town of Shannon in Co. Clare. It offers a service to children of all preschool ages. It is opened Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 5.30pm.
Premises	The service operates from a purposely designed ground floor space within an apartment block building. The premises includes a Baby room, a Wobbler room, a Toddler room and 3 Preschool rooms, a kitchen, sanitary accommodation, nappy changing areas and 2 designated sleep rooms. There are well-resourced outdoor play areas located to the front and the rear of the building.
Staffing	The registered provider is the manager of the service. There are staff employed to work at the facility. There is a person employed to work in the kitchen and prepare and cook fresh meals each day. All staff have achieved a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education. All staff participate in ongoing and continuous professional development training with many staff having up to date first aid training.
Methodology	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. 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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspectors wish 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider is the designated person in charge who has responsibility for running the service daily. There is always a person available to deputise if 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) The registered provider ensures that there is an adequate number of staff employed to work at the service. On the day of the inspection the adult/child ratio was correct and met the requirements of Regulation 11 Staffing levels.

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) The service has 6 well-resourced preschool rooms to accommodate children from 0 to 5 years of age. Each of the rooms are well stocked with play materials and

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<p>equipment. The rooms have areas of interest developed and all play materials are stored on open low-level shelving where all toys are readily accessible to the children.</p> <p>(b) Adequate rest and sleep facilities are available for all pre-school child to rest and sleep during the day if required. For children under 2 years of age separate sleep rooms are available with traditional cots available for all children. Black out blinds are available in these areas to reduce lighting and create a space to accommodate rest and sleep.</p> <p>(2) There are fully enclosed outdoor areas accessible to the children throughout the day to the front and rear of the building. These areas are well resourced with lots of natural play equipment accessible.</p> <p>(3)(a) The services outdoor area is available on the premises.</p>
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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 service provides the children with adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food each day at the service. Foods are prepared fresh in the service and delivered to each room at mealtimes. Childrens preferences are accommodated and alternative meals are always available and offered if needed. Children have access to drinking water throughout the day.

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 front door is always locked and staff must allow all visitors to gain access to the facility.

All fire emergency exit doors are unobstructed and fire assembly areas are clearly visible in the outdoor space.

Safe storage is provided for each child's personal belongings.

Storage for cleaning materials and equipment is provided in a secure area.

A fridge is provided for the storage of perishable foods.

Drinking water is readily available to the children throughout the day.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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) A person trained in first aid is always accessible and available to the children in the service.

(2) (a) A fully equipped first aid box is available in the service.

The first aid box is readily identifiable and easily accessible to all staff if needed.

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 is available of monthly fire drills at the service. The most recent drill took place on the 13th of January 2023.

(b) A service record for the firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms is available. A contracted company visits the service to check this equipment on an ongoing basis.

(4) A fire assembly point is identified in the outdoor area. Notices of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the Pre-school.

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.

The insurance certificate indicates cover for 100 children to attend the service. The certificate expires on 27/03/2023.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(a) The building appears to be of sound and stable structure. It appears clean and well maintained throughout.</p> <p>(b) The entrance door from the front hall to the service is always locked and access beyond this door is controlled by a keypad locking system.</p> <p>(c) Natural lighting is provided with numerous windows and this is supplemented with artificial lights which are fully encased with protective covers. The windows in each room are openable to provide natural ventilation. Underfloor heating which is thermostatically controlled is used to ensure ambient and comfortable room temperatures throughout the service. Portable air conditioning units have been purchased and will be used to ensure safe room temperatures during warm weather periods each summer.</p> <p>(d) The rooms in the service are well maintained and clean throughout.</p> <p>(e) Sufficient sanitary facilities and nappy changing areas are provided in the premises with enough toilets, wash hand basins and nappy changing units available for the proposed increase in number of children at the service.</p>
Requirement not met:	<p>(d) Paintworks were not completed on the day of inspection on the new sleep room.</p> <p>(e) The wash hand basin in the nappy changing room was inaccessible and located in a corner of the room behind a large shelving unit. The temperature of the water at this location was low (20 Degrees Celsius) and needed to be adjusted to a higher temperature to ensure hygienic washing of hands for staff before and after each nappy change.</p>
Response from Provider:	<p>(d) Painting of the new room will be completed before the summer 2023 as the warmer weather will allow better ventilation during the painting.</p> <p>(e) The changing room was rearranged to make the sink more accessible. A plumber was arranged to check thermostat and increase the water temperature to ensure hygienic washing of hands.</p>
Summary Comment:	<p>The response from the register provider is satisfactory and meets the requirements of regulation 29- Premises.</p>

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.
- (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) Adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.
- (2) The required minimum amount of floor space determined by the age range of the children was available in the premises on the day of the inspection.
 - There is 33.79 square meters available in the Baby which can accommodate 10 children for full day care.
 - There is 36.92 square meters available in the Wobbler room which can accommodate 13 children for full day care.
 - There is 36.37 square meters available in the Toddler room which can accommodate 15 children for full day care.
 - There is 34.94 square meters available in the Preschool room 1 which can accommodate 19 children during morning sessional service and 15 children in the afternoon when children attending revert to part time or full-time hours.
 - There is 35.59 square meters available in the Preschool room 2 which can accommodate 19 children during morning sessional service and 15 children in the afternoon when children attending revert to part time or full-time hours.
 - There is 42.80 square meters available in the Preschool room 3 which can accommodate 23 children during morning sessional service and 18 children in the afternoon when children attending revert to part time or full-time hours.

The maximum capacity each morning was 99 children.
After the Early Childhood Care and Education programme finished each evening the maximum capacity at the service was 86 children.
- (3) The minimum amount of floor space required by the various group attending the service was available in each room.
- (4) Sufficient space was available for both the children attending the sessional service and the full day care service.