

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015CN061

Name of Service The Denn Toddlers Playgroup CLG

Address of Service: The Resource Centre, Loonogs, Crosskeys, Cavan, H12 X2K5

Email Address: denntoddlersclg@hotmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Celia Tierney

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

Proposed change: To change age range of children accepted from 3 to 6 years to 2 to 6 years.

Proposed Number of Children: 20 children

Recommended Change Following Inspection: 2-6 years

Registered change: Change in age profile from 3-6 years to 2-6 years

Date of Inspection: 1 6 0 5 2 0 2 5

Inspection undertaken by: S. Skinnader

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: No.18 The Grange Plantation Walk Monaghan

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Sessional Service for 20 Children
Date of Registration	17 th July 2025

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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	The Denn Toddlers Playgroup CLG has been operating as a community-based childcare service since 2000. The service currently provides a sessional service to pre-school children aged 3 to 6 years. The service operates one session from 9am – 12pm each weekday and caters for a maximum of 20 preschool children.
Premises	The service operates from the local resource centre located in a rural setting of Crosskeys Co. Cavan. The service currently has 1 care room and sanitary facilities off the care room. There is an outdoor area to the front of the building.
Staffing	There are 4 staff employed in the service including a service manager.
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 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. The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy.

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) The requirement has been met. The person in charge states that 3 staff members will be working directly with the currently registered 20 pre-school children.

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.

(4) Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.

Requirement met:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

(1)(a) Adequate and suitable facilities have been provided for children to play indoors during the day. A range of toys, equipment and well-resourced interest areas are available in the care room.

(b) Adequate and suitable facilities are provided for the children to rest on if required. There is a cosy corner with soft floor mats and soft fabric covered cushions.

(4) An outdoor area which is safe, secure and suitable has been provided to the front of the service which is fenced, walled and gated.

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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 requirement has been met.
The parents will provide morning snacks and drinks for the children.
The children also have access to potable drinking water.
A fridge is available for the storage of perishable food items.

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 partially been met.
The external doors are appropriately secured to prevent a preschool child exiting unaccompanied. All cleaning agents are stored up high out of the reach of children and cleaning equipment appropriately stored out of the care room. Blind cords are appropriately restricted. There is a designated fire assembly point to the front of the building.

Requirement not met:

The hot water in the designated nappy changing area / staff toilet was cold on inspection. The water was adjusted, and photographic evidence was submitted to the inspectorate showed a hot water temperature of 50.5°C . This exceeds the safe hot water temperature of 43°C and is a potential burns risk.

Response from Provider:

A mixer tap has been installed by a plumber to ensure thermostatically controlled hot water. Photographic evidence of water temperatures were submitted.

Summary Comment:

The registered provider's response was reviewed and accepted. The regulatory requirement has been met.

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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:

- (1) The registered provider has ensured there is an adult with up to date First Aid Responder (FAR) training on the premises. Three FAR certificates were available for inspection.
- (2)(a) (b) An adequately stocked first aid box is provided in the service and is available to the pre-school children at all times.

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) There is a log in place to record any fire drills that will take place on the service electronic application.
- (b) There is a written record of the maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises dated 10/9/24 and 10/1/24 respectively.
- (4) There is a notice displayed of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire.

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.
Insurance is in place for the preschool children which covers a maximum of 22 children and expires on the 27/3/26.

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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 service is operating from a premises which appears to be structurally sound.

(b) The service is safe and secure with a locked entrance. The outdoor play area to the front of the building is fenced and secured.

(c) Light levels in the care room and sanitary accommodations are adequate and are provided by means of natural light through windows and supplemented with covered fluorescent lights.

The room temperature in the care room is adequate. Heating is by means of a wall mounted heating/ air conditioning unit.

Ventilation: The care room is ventilated by means of openable windows. There are openable windows in the sanitary accommodation off the care room and in the staff toilet/ nappy changing area.

(d) The premises, toys and equipment are in a clean condition and in good repair. Cleaning schedules are available.

(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary accommodation is provided i.e. 2 toilets and 2 washhand basins in the sanitary accommodation off the care room. There is a staff toilet and hand basin for the staff which also provides the nappy changing facilities. This area includes a nappy changing mat and pull-down station, gloves, cleaning spray and a pedal operated nappy bin. There is thermostatically controlled hot water, a supply of liquid soap and a wall mounted paper towel dispenser in the sanitary accommodation off the care room.

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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.*

Requirement met:

(1) and (3) The requirement has been met.
In the care room there is a floor space of approximately 42m² which is adequate to accommodate the maximum 20 children aged 2-6 years on a sessional basis.