

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2015DL043
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<b>Name of Service</b>	Fairytales Day Care
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Ray Community Centre, Ray, Rathmullan, Letterkenny, Donegal, F92CD70
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<b>Email Address:</b>	patricefairytales@gmail.com
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Patrice Mc Bride
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<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>		<b>Part-Time</b>	✓	<b>Sessional</b>	✓
	<b>Drop-In</b>		<b>Childminding</b>		<b>Temporary</b>	

<b>Proposed change:</b>	Change in service address and service type to part time and sessional
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<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	Sessional 22 children, Part-time 16 children
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<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	The service be registered for a maximum of 22 children in a sessional service with a maximum of 16 remaining in the service to be cared for in a part-time service.
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<b>Registered change:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change in service address from St Joseph's National School, Rathmullan, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal to Ray Community Centre, Ray, Rathmullan, Letterkenny, Donegal, F92CD70</li> <li>• Change in age profile from 2-6 years to 2 years 6 months-6 years.</li> <li>• Change in service type from Sessional to Part Time/ Sessional for 22 Children (Max 16 Part Time)</li> <li>• Change in hours of operation from 09:00 – 12:00 to 08:00 – 13:00 or 09:00 – 14:00</li> </ul>
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	3	1	0	7	2	0	2	3
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<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	A. Spain
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<b>Title:</b>	Registration Support Manager
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<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Primary Care Centre, Church Avenue, Tullamore, Co Offaly
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### Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Part Time / Sessional Service for 22 Children (Max 16 Part Time)
<b>Date of Registration</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> August 2023

### 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	Fairytales Day Care is a service which is seeking to move premises. The service is open since 2019 and is seeking to relocate to a two storey community building located in a coastal village in north west Donegal. The proposed rooms for use in the service are leased by the registered provider. The service proposes to care for children aged two years and six months to six years and to open between the hours of 8.00 am and 2.00pm. The service offers the Early Childhood and Education Scheme (ECCE) between the hours of 9.00am and 12.00pm. A school age service is provided between the hours of 2.00 and 6.00pm.
<b>Premises</b>	Rooms proposed for use in the service include a playroom, sanitary accommodation for children and a cleaning store room at first floor level. An entrance and reception area and sanitary accommodation for both children and staff are located at ground floor level. The staff toilet has disability access. An outdoor play area and parking is available at the side of the building and close to the entrance to the service. Additional rooms in the building include a room adjacent to the playroom at first floor level which is not in use and both meeting rooms and a large amenity hall at ground floor level
<b>Staffing</b>	The service is staffed by three adults who have childcare qualifications at Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) level 5 to level 8. Experience in childcare varies from 1 to 6 years. The registered provider does not work directly in the service.
<b>Methodology</b>	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

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	<p>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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider and the person in charge who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment	
<i>(1) A registered provider shall ensure that—</i>	
<i>(a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.</i>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>The service has both a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required. Both staff members work directly in the service.</p>

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels	
<i>(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.</i>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	This requirement has been met.

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(a) An adequate number of adults are available to work directly with the children as two adults are available to care for a maximum of 22 children in daily attendance for a sessional service and 16 children in daily attendance for 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.

#### Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The playroom is well equipped with suitable and age appropriate toys and play equipment in defined areas of interest. The home corner is provided with kitchen equipment, utensils, menus, dolls, baby formula containers and a tea set. Farm machinery, animals, sheds, a garage, a road mat, a variety of animals and toys on wheels are available for floor activities. Arts and crafts materials including paint, colours, paper and shapes are available in an arts and crafts area. A picture illustrating how to safely blow your nose is provided at the self-care station. Play equipment available for table top activities include a variety of jigsaws, puzzles, flash cards and games.

(b) A rest area with soft floor mats, two low level soft couches, cushions and soft toys is provided for children to rest and relax in an area of the playroom while other children

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continue to play in the same room. Low level beds are provided to facilitate childrens rest and sleep as required. An open shelf in the playroom is used to store clean linen and blankets required for low level beds when in use. Books are stored in an open box which is easily accessible to children availing of the rest area.

(2)(b) An outdoor play area which is safely and securely fenced in using heavy duty plastic fencing is provided directly outside the service. The outdoor area is for the sole use of the early years' service. The area is surfaced with a combination of pebbles and a bark finished area. Natural materials including timber benches to sit, timber logs and tyres for climbing and balancing are provided. In addition the service has access to both the enclosed pitch and an enclosed woodland play area on the ground outside of the building.

The woodland play area has a variety of timber benches with animal carvings, play houses, bird houses, trees and a low flowing water stream. The area is secured by heavy duty wire fencing on all site boundaries.

### 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:

This requirement has been met.

A stand up refrigerator is provided in the kitchen on the ground floor and close to the entrance door used by the service for the storage of perishable foods and snacks provided by parents and guardians of children in attendance for sessional childcare in the service. The service proposes to provide a meal for children remaining for part-time childcare. The kitchen is equipped with cooking, wash up, food storage and hand washing facilities. Refrigerated storage is provided for perishable foods. The children take their water bottles directly to the playroom to avail of drinks on demand.

### Part VI – Safety

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### 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:

This requirement has been met.

The service has taken the following measure to safeguard the childrens health safety and welfare and to ensure that the environment of the service is safe while children are in attendance.

Environment of the service.

- The service has sole use of both the entrance door at ground floor level and the rooms in the community building proposed for use.
- The sanitary accommodation at ground floor level are confined to use by the service during operation hours.
- Entrance to the hall off the ground floor sanitary accommodation and kitchen is secured by a high level latch during operational hours of the service. There is a separate entrance to both the large hall and the rooms at ground floor level directly from outside of the premises and independent of the early years' service.
- The entrance door to the early years' service is secured and a door bell provided to facilitate late drop off and early collection of children.
- A cleaning store is provided for the sole use of the early years' service at first floor level to safely store cleaning equipment and chemicals in an area outside of the playroom.
- All windows in the playroom at first floor level are provided with restricted opening devices.
- The service has an outings policy which covers a risk assessment and necessary control measures in place when the outdoor woodland garden on the grounds outside of the service is in use.

Infection Control.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A washhand basin with an instantaneous supply of hot and cold water and properly connected to the drainage system is provided in the playroom at child height to assist with the hand hygiene policy for the service.</li> <li>• All refuse and waste is stored in closed bins at the side of the building and in an area children are denied access to.</li> <li>• Openable windows are provided in all rooms to ensure a good supply of fresh air directly from outside of the premises when rooms are in use. The infection control policy for the service advised that windows are opened daily when children and staff are present.</li> <li>• The rooms in the service are well maintained.</li> </ul>
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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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) The three staff members working in the service have up to date first aid responder training with expiry dates of September 2024 in the case of one staff member and November 2024 in the case of the remaining two staff members.

(2)(a)(b) A first aid box is provided and stored on a high level shelf in the playroom.



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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:

This requirement has been met.

- (1)(a) A recording system is available to maintain a record of monthly fire drills as conducted in the service. The record form is located on a notice board in the playroom.
- (b) The maintenance record for the fire extinguishers which are wall mounted in the hallway inside of the entranced door to the service and in the hallway at first floor level indicate that an annual service was conducted in October 2022. The maintenance record for the smoke alarm system indicates that a service was conducted in August 2023.
- (4) A child friendly notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire with picture illustrations is available in the playroom. A fire assembly point is posted on the heavy duty plastic fencing close to the entrance gate to the outdoor play area.



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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:

This requirement has been met.

The service has insurance cover for a total of 48 children in daily attendance. Insurance covers a maximum of 22 children in attendance in an early years' service and a maximum of 24 children in daily attendance in a school age service. Insurance is valid from 21 August 2023 to 27 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:

This requirement has been met.

(a) The premises appears to be in a good state of repair and maintenance with no evidence of dampness or mould growth on internal walls and doors. Windows and doors appear to be both water tight and weather tight when closed. The perimeter of the building is surrounded by a smooth concrete path. A smooth surface leads to the entrance to the building from the car parking area.

(b) Entrance to the service is secured and confined to use by the early years' service. The service is connected to both the public drainage and water supply.

(c) Openable windows and fluorescent light fittings which are covered with shatter proof diffusers ensure a good mix of both natural and artificial lighting and ventilation

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	<p>in all rooms in use in the service. The oil heating system in the rooms is thermostatically controlled from an office in the building.</p> <p>(d) The premises is clean and cleaning schedules are available to ensure regular and routine cleaning of all rooms when in use. A pest control contract is available to ensure vermin and pest control.</p> <p>(e) One toilet and one washhand basin is provided at ground floor level close to the entrance to the service for use by early years children. One toilet and one washhand basin is provided at first floor level for use by early years children.</p> <p>A separate toilet and washhand basin which has disability access is provided for use by adults working in the service. Sanitary accommodation is provided with thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap, disposable paper towels and foot pedal operated bins adjacent to the washhand basins.</p>
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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) An area of 55m<sup>2</sup> ensures that adequate floor space is available for the maximum of 22 children in the age range 2 years 6 months to 6 years in daily attendance in the service to avail of sessional childcare.</p> <p>(2) The area of the playroom ensures that adequate floor space is provided for a maximum of 16 children availing of a part-time childcare service.</p>
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