

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Tusla I.D.:</b>	TU2015DL057
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<b>Name of Service</b>	Kiddlywinks CC Limited
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Ballintra Community Centre, Ballintra, Co. Donegal. F94 X7TD
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<b>Email Address:</b>	kiddlywinksc@gmail.com
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Denise Gallagher
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<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sessional</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Drop-In</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Childminding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Proposed change:</b>	Increase in the number of children from 22 to 30 Change in Service Type from Part Time to Full Day Care.
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	30
<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	Increase in the number of children to a maximum of 30 sessional or 23 part time/full day care at any one time.
<b>Registered change:</b>	Change in Service Type form Part-Time to Full Day Care Change in Number of Children from 30(Max 23Part- time/Full Day Care) children

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	2	2	0	4	2	0	2	5
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<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	L McGlynn and S Killeen
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspectors
<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F92 TD92

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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 Full Day Care Service for 30(Max 23 Part-Time/Full Day) Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
<b>Authority to Inspect</b>	
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>	Kiddlywinks CC limited is a privately owned pre-school service located in the rural village of Ballintra in County Donegal. The service currently offers part-time and sessional pre-school care to children aged between two and six years. The service is also registered to provide school age care.
<b>Premises</b>	The pre-school operates from a purpose-adapted premises based on the grounds of a community centre. There are two pre-school rooms, namely, Ladybirds and Butterflies. A designated outdoor play area to which children have daily access is available along with other facilities to include storage areas, an office, staff toilet and children's sanitary facilities.
<b>Staffing</b>	There are 10 staff members currently employed within the service who work directly with the children, this includes the registered provider who is the designated person in charge.
<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 following themes: Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises.

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	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.
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The Inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider and staff member who were present on the day of the inspection.

### 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider was the designated person in charge and a named person is available 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.

#### Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider confirmed that they are aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 2 of Schedule 6 and will ensure that an adequate number of adults will at all times work directly with the number of children attending the 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.

(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:**

This requirement has been met.

(1) (a) Both rooms were resourced with suitable toys and materials appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children. Interest areas included home corners, construction areas, arts and crafts, puzzles, sensory play materials. Open low level shelving units enabled all items to be readily accessible to the children and suitable sized tables and chairs were available for play activities and mealtimes. There was a designated storage area with a large supply of additional resources to allow for toy rotation.

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- (b) A supply of six stackable floor beds were available in the service to facilitate the sleep needs of children. There was rest areas in the form of soft floor mats and seating in both rooms to ensure children can avail of rest or have a quiet space to opt out of an activity if they choose.
- (2) (b) There was a designated outdoor space to the side of the premises which was subdivided. There was a large, sheltered area with various materials and resources including a mud kitchen, picnic benches and a sand tray. A separate digging/construction area was located adjacent to the sheltered area and a third large, open-air area with tarmac provided space for running, ball play and the use of ride on toys.
- (3) (a) (b) The outdoor play area was suitable safe and secure.

### 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.

Children's meal requirements are to be provided by an outside caterer. Children will bring their snacks from home and the service will provide the main hot meal. A sample menu was furnished which demonstrated a good variety of nutritional foods. The menu was updated monthly. There was a fridge for storing perishable foods brought from home.

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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:

This requirement was partially met.

- The premises was secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and adults gaining unauthorised entry to the facility by way of secure entry and exit points. Emergency exit routes were free from obstruction.
- The outdoor play area was fully enclosed. There were no observable hazards on the grounds of the outdoor area. Toys and equipment appeared in good condition, appropriate for the proposed age group of children and free from obvious hazards.
- Suitable hand washing facilities including liquid soap and single use paper towels were provided in the children’s and adults sanitary accommodation and in the preschool rooms.
- The premises and play equipment were visibly clean. Cleaning equipment and materials were stored in a designated storage area that was secured and not accessible to children. Cleaning schedules were available to view and contained details on each of the areas within the preschool rooms and sanitary accommodation to be cleaned, the frequency of cleaning and the method used.
- There was provision for the appropriate disposal of waste. This included the provision of foot pedal operated bins throughout the preschool rooms and sanitary accommodation.
- Ventilation was provided in each preschool room and in the sanitary accommodation by way of openable windows.

#### Requirement not met:

1. The water temperature in each of the wash hand basins for children’s use in the sanitary accommodation was measured to be marginally over the maximum safe

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	limit of 43°C. Sink one measured 43.8°C, sink two measured 43.4°C and sink three measured 43.6°C. Children were not on site on the day of inspection.
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	1. The water temperature has been regulated.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	The declaration and evidence submitted by the registered provider has been accepted. The requirements of this regulation have been met.

### 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 requirements of this regulation were met.

(1) There was two staff members with up-to-date training in first aid for children.

(2)(a) (b) A suitably equipped first aid box was available in the service and readily accessible to staff if required.

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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 requirements of this regulation were met.

(1)(a) There was a written record of fire drills that had taken place with the children which were detailed monthly.

(b) There was documentation detailing the number and type of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarm system in the building. The firefighting equipment was last serviced in June 2024 and the smoke alarms tested in October 2024.

(4) The registered provider confirmed that a notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were to be displayed in each room.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

#### Requirement met:

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection. The Registered Provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the service. The service approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.

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 service operates from a single-story building renovated for the purposes of providing an early years’ service. The registered provider confirmed that they had no knowledge of any structural defects on the building and on superficial visual inspection, the building appeared of sound and stable structure with no visible defects.

(b) The service was adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry. There was a keypad entry from the lobby area to the main corridor where the care rooms were located.

(c) An adequate source of heating was provided in the service and sanitary accommodation. This consisted of an oil-fired central heating. The air temperature in each playroom on the day of inspection registered within the recommended 18-22°C range. The lighting was provided by natural light leading from openable windows supplemented with fluorescent ceiling light fittings with protective covers. The preschool rooms and sanitary accommodation were ventilated by openable windows.

(d) The premises appeared to be in a good state of repair and was clean on the day of inspection with walls smoothly rendered and painted. The building was connected to a mains water supply providing appropriate drinking water for staff and children and running water for cleaning.

(e) The sanitary facilities in the service were adequately equipped with wash hand basins and toilets for the number of children that will be in attendance. There were

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three toilets, five wash hand basins and one nappy changing station within one toilet cubicle for children's use within the service. In addition to this, there was one toilet and one wash hand basin available for staff use.

### 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of children.

(2) The size of the proposed preschool rooms ensured that the required floor space for a maximum number of 30 preschool children in the proposed age range attending on a sessional basis or 23 on a part time or full day care basis has been met. The clear floor space in one room measured 23.21 m<sup>2</sup> and the floor area of the second room measured 34.60 m<sup>2</sup>