

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015DL143

Name of Service Tiny Tots 2 Teens

Address of Service: Castlegardens, Drumboe, Stranorlar, Donegal, F93 YF80

Email Address: deirdreoneill11@yahoo.co.uk

Name of Registered Provider: Deirdre O'Neill

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" 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: Additional room, Part time to Full day care, Change in hours to 07:30 to 18:30

Proposed Number of Children: 88 Children

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Part time to full day care.
Use of additional room
Change in hours to 07:30 to 18:30

Registered change: Change in Number of Children from 62 to 88 children
Change in Service Type from Part time/Sessional to Full Day & Sessional
Change in Hours from 08:45 – 13:44 & 12:30 – 15:30 to 07:30 – 18:30

Date of Inspection:	1	7	1	2	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by: N. McEndoo and L. Costello

Title: Early Years Inspectors

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F95 XK94

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day & Sessional for 88 Children
Date of Registration	10 th March 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	This privately owned preschool service is in the town of Stranorlar, Co. Donegal. The preschool caters for children aged between 2 to 6 years, from Monday to Friday between 8:45 am to 3:30 pm. This preschool service currently offers the option of a part time care service, an Early Childhood Care and Education and sessional care programme.
Premises	This preschool service operates from converted retail units in small enterprise centre. The service has 3 childcare playrooms and a school aged playroom. The pre-school children have access to two outdoor play areas to the rear of the premises for play activities, exploration, and fresh air. The smaller of the two areas is roofed to protect children from the elements.
Staffing	There is a total of twelve adults working in the service. The registered provider is on the premises on a daily basis and also acts as the named person in charge. There is a designated deputy available. There are 3 staff working in each of the 3 playrooms. There are 3 adults available to go between the playrooms throughout the day to support staff and children where needed.
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 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.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) (a)

The registered provider is the person in charge and there is a named person 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 is aware of the required adult to children ratios.

The registered provider produced a proposed sample roster of staffing within the service that ensures an adequate number of adults are working directly with the children attending the preschool 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)

Adequate facilities were provided for children to play indoors and outdoors. The service is offering a play-based programme with a well-resourced playroom divided into different interest areas. These interest areas include a home corner resourced with a kitchen, dining table and crockery. A construction area with trucks, diggers and building blocks. Sensory play is facilitated with water/ sand tables. An arts and crafts area will provide opportunities for creativity. Dress up areas, dolls and toys will provide opportunities for role play. A well-resourced library aims to support language development. Open low level accessible shelving stocked with tabletop activities, puzzles and jigsaws aim to support coordination and fine motor skill development.

The outdoor area located to the rear of the property is equipped with wooden houses and boats, playhouses and mud kitchens. A variety of ride on toys, footballs and goal posts aim to assist gross motor skill development.

(b)

A cosy corner equipped with leather sofas and soft cushions provides an area to relax or read a book. Rest and sleep time is also facilitated with the use of stackable floor beds. It is envisaged that these floor beds will be used in the main care room if required. The registered provider is aware of the required sleep provisions.

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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:

This requirement has been met:

The service had a healthy eating policy in place. All snacks are brought in from home in line with the healthy eating policy. A fridge is available in the proposed care room to ensure all perishable items from home are stored correctly.

For those attending the full day care service, meals are provided on site, and the service has a rolling three-week menu plan. Main meals of breakfast and dinner are provided by the service while morning and evening snacks are provided by the parents.

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 has been met:

The service demonstrated the following safety measures:

- The main entrance is secure with a thumb lock system. Children are brought by their parents to the entrance doors.
- Internal doors are appropriately secure to prevent children accessing an unsafe area.
- Windows have been risk assessed, and security mechanisms are in place.
- All toys and resources are in good condition and free from pinch or crush points.
- Storage facilities are inaccessible to the preschool child.
- Bathrooms are stocked with liquid soap and paper towels for effective hand hygiene.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water temperatures on the day of inspection were measuring 47°C, this was rectified by maintenance on the day and when rechecked water temperature was measured at 35.6°C. • A leather sofa that had a rip with exposed foam was fixed on inspection to ensure effective cleaning. • A risk assessment was in place for safe use of the outdoor area that is also partially used as a car park.
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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) Two staff members employed in the service have up to date certification of completed first aid responder training.
- (2) (a) (b)
There was a suitably equipped first aid box available to the preschool children 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:

This requirement has been met:

(1) (a)

The registered provider demonstrated that monthly fire evacuation drills take place in the service the most recent drill occurring on the 29th of November 2024.

(b)

A record of the maintenance of all fire fighting equipment was available with the most recent maintenance date of 3rd of September 2024.

(4)

Fire evacuation procedures were clearly displayed on the walls of the care rooms.

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 registered provider demonstrated that the preschool service has adequate insurance for 80 preschool children in a full day care service.

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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:

This requirement has been met:

- (a) On a visual inspection the service appeared to be of a sound and stable structure. The registered provider confirmed that she was not aware of any deficits with the building.
- (b) The building is safe and secure with all accessible doors kept always locked.
- (c) Adequate lighting is available in the proposed care room with the provision of a mix of natural and artificial lighting. Large openable windows provide adequate light and ventilation, while natural light is supplemented by fluorescent lighting.
- (d) The service is clean and appears well maintained.
- (e) The proposed new room has additional sanitary accommodation which consists of two toilets and wash hand basins for the use of the preschool child. If children attending this new room require nappy changing access to the nappy changing station in the adjacent room is available.

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.

(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:

This requirement has been met:

(1)

Adequate floor space is provided in the proposed classroom for the free movement of children to work rest and play.

(4)

It is proposed that a maximum of 22 children will attend the proposed new room on a sessional basis. The service demonstrated adequate free floor space for this number of children. The care room measured 85.54m².

This room provided adequate floor space for those children wishing to stay on for full day care service.