

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D.:** TU2015DS048

**Name of Service** Knocklyon Lodge Creche & Montessori

**Address of Service:** Knocklyon Lodge, Old Knocklyon Road, Knocklyon, Dublin 16, D16 XF25

**Email Address:** info@knocklyonlodge.ie

**Name of Registered Provider:** Jeanatte Sheerin

<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"/>

**Proposed change:** Change in Number of Children from 102 to 107 children

**Proposed Number of Children:** 107

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** Change in Number of Children from 102 to 107 children

**Registered change:** Change in Number of Children from 102 to 107 children

**Date of Inspection:** 1 6 0 9 2 0 2 4

**Inspection undertaken by:** E. Finnegan Hayes & C. Harte

**Title:** Early years inspectors

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Early Years Inspectorate,  
7th Floor, Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, St. John's West, Dublin 8

**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 for 107 children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2024

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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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	Knocklyon Lodge is a privately owned full day care service which proposes to operate early years care and education to children aged 0-6 years. The service will open 8:00am-5:30pm Monday to Friday providing a full day care the service and will participate in the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE).
<b>Premises</b>	The proposed service will operate from a purposely adapted building containing 7 care rooms across two adjoining buildings. The proposed service also contains a kitchen, staff room, office and required sanitary accommodation. Four enclosed outdoor areas are provided onsite; three to the rear of the building and one to the front and side of the building.
<b>Staffing</b>	The registered provider employs 30 staff including the person in charge, 2 deputy managers, 23 childcare workers, a chef, a bus driver and a housekeeper. The service also employs an additional administration staff member who works remotely.
<b>Methodology</b>	<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>

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<b>Acknowledgements</b>	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

<b>Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment</b>	
<i>(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.</i>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	(1) (a) The service has a designated person in charge and two named persons to deputise as required.

### Part III - Management and Staff

<b>Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels</b>	
<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>	(1) The registered provider proposes to have seventeen staff working directly with the children in the service.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

<b>Regulation 20 - Facilities for Rest and Play</b>	
<i>(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. (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</i>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	(1)(a) The toys and materials available were assessed and deemed adequate to support the learning and development of the children. For example. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All care rooms were equipped with a range of toys and equipment suitable for children in the proposed age group. The toys were grouped thematically into defined interest areas and accessible to the children on low level shelving.</li> <li>Child sized tables and chairs were provided for the children to engage in tabletop activities and eat meals.</li> </ul>

- Highchairs are available in the baby room for younger children.
- Furniture and equipment were observed to be well maintained durable and easy to clean.
- Four garden areas provide space and opportunity for children to play outside. The gardens included a selection of ride on toys, playhouses, sand pits and seesaws.

(b)

- Cozy areas are provided in all care room providing a comfortable place for the children to rest or to take a break from activities during the day.
- Rest areas are provided in the outdoor area.
- An adequate number of cots are available for children aged under 2 years who require sleep during the day.
- An adequate number of low-level beds and sleep mats are available for children aged over 2 years who require sleep during the day.
- Individual bedlinen will be available for children who require sleep during the day.

(3) (a) Four adequately secured outdoor areas are available within the grounds of the service.

**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 has a Healthy eating policy. The service will provide three meals and one snack to the children attending full day care; based on a four-week menu. The meals provided include breakfast, snack, lunch and tea; lunch is a hot meal. Children attending on a sessional basis provide their own lunch which is stored in the fridge in the care rooms to prevent spoiling of perishable items. Water will be available to the children in the care room.

**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 registered provider has put the following measures in place to ensure the safety of the children

- The care room doors are closed when the children are present.
- The outdoor area is adequately secured with high fencing and a gate which is secured.
- Toys and equipment are well maintained and free from hazards.
- Flexes are appropriately secured out of reach of the children.
- The fire assembly point is clearly labelled in the outdoor area.
- A system is in place to ensure linens are laundered on a set schedule and as needed.
- Cleaning products were stored out of reach of children.
- Radiator covers were in place.
- Blind cords are secured out of reach of the children.
- Cleaning rotas for care rooms and sanitary areas were displayed and completed up to date.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nappy changing Cots and mattresses were observed to be clean and in good condition.</li> <li>Adequate space is available to place sleep equipment a minimum of 50cm apart.</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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>(1) The registered provider ensured that an adequate number of staff members are trained in First Aid Response (FAR). A sample of eight FAR certificates were reviewed.</p> <p>(2) (a)(b) A suitably equipped first aid box is available, stored out of reach of the children but immediately available if required.</p>
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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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>(1) (a) A record of fire drills is maintained. Fire drills are conducted monthly.</p> <p>(b) A record detailing the servicing of the firefighting equipment was available for review. The certificates showed the most recent service of the firefighting equipment took place on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 while the smoke alarms were last serviced on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024.</p> <p>(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire emergency are displayed throughout the service.</p>
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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:**

The registered provider ensured that insurance which is valid until 27/03/2025 is in place.

### 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:**

- (a)
  - On visual inspection, the care room appeared to be of stable structure.
  - Water is provided by the public mains.
  - Sewage is removed from the building via the public sewage system.
- (b)
  - The service entrance is secured, and access is managed by staff.
  - The outdoor area is secure with high fencing.
- (c)
  - Natural light was available in both care rooms, this is supplemented by artificial light.
  - Shatterproof covers are fitted on all light fixtures.
  - Care rooms will be ventilated by opening windows. Mechanical vents are present in the sanitary areas.
  - An ambient temperature is maintained in the care rooms.
- (d)
  - The service was adequately cleaned.
  - The service was adequately rodent proofed.
- (e)

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- Sanitary facilities are available both buildings;
  - Nine children’s toilets are available
  - Nine sinks are available in the children’s sanitary areas.
  - Four nappy changing units are available.
  - Three adult toilets and sinks are available in the adult sanitary facilities.
  - An additional sink is available in three of the care rooms.

### 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:

(1)(2) The seven care rooms are sized as follows;

Room name	Age group	Service provision	Room size
Rainbow	1-2 years	Full Day Care	32m <sup>2</sup>
Sunshine	2-3 years	Full Day Care	26m <sup>2</sup>
Starlight	2-3 years	Full Day Care	30m <sup>2</sup>
Turtle	2 years 8 months- 3 years	Full Day Care	26m <sup>2</sup>
Dolphin	3-5 years	Full Day Care	49m <sup>2</sup>
Shark	3-5 years	Sessional	43m <sup>2</sup>
Seahorse	2 years 8 months -5 years	Sessional	36m <sup>2</sup>

Above is sufficient for 107 children attending on a full day or sessional basis as described above.