

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015DY017

Name of Service Ballymun East Community Centre

Address of Service: Woodhazel Close, Ballymun, Dublin 9, D09 N9K4

Email Address: dcooper32@hotmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Deborah Cooper

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

Proposed change: Proposal to change the age profile of children catered for from 1 to 6 years old to 0 to 6 years old. This age profile will be catered for in the Turtle room.

Proposed Number of Children: 111 (no change)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change the age profile of children catered for from 1 to 6 years old to 0 to 6 years old. This age profile will be catered for in the Turtle room.

Registered change: Change in age profile of children from 1 – 6 years to 0 – 6 years

Date of Inspection:	1	1	0	4	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by: T. Nelson

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: 2nd Floor, Unit 4/5, The Nexus Building
Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Ballycoolin
Dublin 15 | D15 CF9K

Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 111 Children
Date of Registration	17 th May 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).

Description of Service	The proposed care room is in a full day care service located in a residential area in Ballymun, Dublin 9. The service is currently registered to provide full-day, part-time and sessional care and education to children aged from 1 to 6 years and participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme which is delivered from 9.00am to 12.00 noon and operating hours of from 9am to 5pm daily.
Premises	There are five care rooms currently in operation which are spread over two floors. It is proposed that the Turtle Room will provide care for children from 0 to 18 months. Also on the ground floor is Little Wonders (18 to 24 months), a kitchen and an office are on the ground floor and Tara Tots (2 to 3 years), Jumping Jacks (2.5 to 3.5 years) and the Rainbow Room (3 to 5 years) are on the first floor. Little Einstein's (3 to 5 years) on the first floor is not currently in operation. There is sanitary accommodation located off each of the rooms, and sleeping facilities located off the Turtle Room, Little Wonders and Tara Tots. The outdoor play areas are located at the front and the side of the premises, however the area to the side of the building is not currently in use.
Staffing	There are 18 staff employed by the centre including the registered provider who manages the oversight of the service. The person in charge and a childcare liaison worker assist in managing the oversight of the service and are available where needed to provide cover across the rooms, 12 staff who work directly with the children, a caretaker, a cook and an administration worker. There are also 17 adults employed under the Community Employment (CE) programme. These are managed by the CE supervisor.
Methodology	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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children 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>	
Requirement met:	The requirement is met. (1)(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named staff member is available to deputise as required.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider stated that they would ensure that an adequate number of adults will be working directly with the proposed children who will attend the service.

The registered provider has proposed that 2 adults will be working 6 children in the 0 to 18 months old age range in the proposed care room.

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.*
- (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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement is partially met.

(1)(a) The proposed care room will provide adequate and suitable facilities for the children to play indoors with defined areas of interest in the rooms. There is an adequate supply of toys and resources available. Furniture in the rooms is suitable for the age and stage of the children, with toys and equipment stored on low-level shelving accessible and visible to the children.

(1)(b) There is adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day. Soft matting and cushions are available in the care room to allow children to take a break from activities and rest.

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	The cot room is located off the care room, and there is access to 5 standard cots. There is an adequate supply of bed linen and cellular blankets available.
Requirement not met:	The requirement is not met. (3)(a) There is no access to a suitable outdoor play area for the proposed age range of children
Response from Provider:	The registered provider submitted evidence of the following: The service have a new area set up outside with adequate space and safe surface applied to the ground for the children. They have also got new outside play equipment for the children.
Summary Comment:	The requirement is met.

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 proposed service will prepare and provide all meals and snacks in the onsite kitchen. There is a healthy eating policy in place and a three-week rotating menu plan available providing adequate and appropriate food to the children. Water stations will be available in rooms where children will have access to drinking water throughout the day.
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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:	<p>The requirement has been partially met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The emergency exits are unobstructed. • The entrance is managed and monitored by staff. • Flexes and cables are appropriately secured. • All toys and equipment are in good condition and safe for the age group of the children using them. • Hazardous equipment was stored up high out of reach of the children. • Liquid soap, and thermostatically controlled warm water is available is the sinks used by the staff and children. • Appropriate foot pedal operated waste disposal bins are in use. • Cleaning schedules are in place and the rooms were visually clean on the day of the inspection. • The temperature of 18.8°C in the cot room where children will sleep was recorded on the day of the inspection, which is within the recommended temperature range of between 16 °C to 20°C for children under one year old. • A log will be maintained where the temperature of the room and the colour, breathing and position of sleeping children will be checked every 10 minutes.
Requirement not met:	<p>Requirement not met: Infection control:</p> <p>The following increased the potential risk of infection.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no removeable washable mattress covers in the cots for the proposed babies to sleep in. 2. This is no hand drying facility at the sink in the care room.
Response from Provider:	<p>The registered provider submitted evidence of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The service has purchased washable mattress covers for all the cots.

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	2. The service has fitted a new hand towel dispenser in the room.
Summary Comment:	The requirement is 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 requirement is met. (1) Evidence is available that three staff members are trained to First Aid Response Level. (2)(a)(b) A suitably equipped first aid box is readily available.
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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 requirement is partially met. (1)(a) There is a template available to record fire drills that take place in the service. (1)(b) A written record is available to demonstrate the smoke alarms in the premises were maintained on the 19 March 2024. (4) There is a notice displayed in each of the care rooms of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire.
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Requirement not met:	<p>The requirement is not met.</p> <p>(1)(b) There is no written record to demonstrate that the firefighting equipment has been serviced.</p> <p>(4) There was no fire assembly notice on display outside of the service.</p>
Response from Provider:	<p>The registered provider submitted evidence of the following:</p> <p>(1)(b) A record of the recent maintenance of the fire fighting equipment dated 16 April 2024 was submitted.</p> <p>(4) A fire assembly notice is now displayed on the outside of the service.</p>
Summary Comment:	<p>The requirement is met.</p>

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement is met.</p> <p>The registered provider provided evidence of appropriate insurance for up to 125 children in a full day service, from the 27 October 2023 to 27 October 2024.</p>
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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 is met.

(a) The premises appears to be of a sound and stable structure.

(b) The entrance door to the service is secured adequately to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons from gaining access.

(c)

- Windows provide natural lighting to all the care rooms. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with protective covers.
- Heating is provided by gas central heated radiators which are suitably protected. The temperature of the care room on the day of the inspection was 19.8°C.
- The proposed care room has openable windows, and the sanitary accommodation has an openable window.

(d) The room is clean, maintained and in good repair. There is a cleaning schedule available to ensure regular cleaning of the room.

(e) There is adequate and suitable sanitary accommodation available for the proposed change in age profile to 0 to 6 years old for the 95 children.

The sanitary facilities are as follows:

Sanitary Facilities	Number of Nappy	Number of Toilets	Number of Wash hand basins (WHB)

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	changing units		
Turtle Room	1	0	2
Little Wonders	1	2	2
Tara Tots	1	1	2
Jumping Jacks	1	2	3
Rainbow room	0	2	2
Little Einsteins	0	3	3
Total	4	10	14

There are four staff toilets. This can accommodate up to 32 staff members

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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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement is met.

(1) The clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the proposed new care room is adequate for the age range of the children proposed.

(2) The clear floor space available measures 34m².

Proposed care room:	Clear floor space measured by EYI:	Space required:	Proposed number of children:
0-18 months old	34m ²	0-1 years: 3.5 m ² 1-2 years: 2.8 m ²	10 FDC*

The registered provider has ensured that a minimum of the required square metres of clear floor space is available for the proposed age range of the children to attend on a sessional basis, part time or full day care (*FDC) basis in the care room.