

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.:	TU2015DY169				
Name of Service	Poppintree Early Education Centre				
Address of Service:	Poppintree Community Sports Centre, Balbutcher Lane, Poppintree, Ballymun, D11 E7WR				
Email Address:	info@poppintree.ie				
Name of Registered Provider:	Bernie Kelly				
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time	x	Sessional
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary
Proposed change:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Move to new premises within the community centre. - Change the age profile of children from 0 to 6 years to 2 to 6 years. - Change in maximum number of children from 48 to 11. - Change of type of service from full time to part-time, with opening hours from 9.30 am to 2.30pm. 				
Proposed Number of Children:	11				
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Move to new premises within the community centre. - Change the age profile of children from 0 to 6 years to 2 to 6 years. - Change in maximum number of children from 48 to 8 - Change of type of service from full time to part-time, with opening hours from 9.30 am to 2.30pm. 				
Registered change:	Change in Service Type – from Full Day to Part-Time Change in Hours of Operation from 08:30 – 17:15 to 09:30 – 14:30 Change in number of Children from 48 to 8 children Change in Age Profile from 0-6 years to 2-6 years				

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Date of Inspection:	1	1	0	4	2	0	2	5
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Inspection undertaken by:	T Nelson
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate Area 1 2 nd Floor, Unit 4/5, The Nexus Building, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 15 D15 CF9K
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Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part-Time Service for 8 Children
Date of Registration	28 th April 2025

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 service will provide part time day care to children aged from 2 to 6 years. The service will operate from Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 2.30pm.
Premises	The proposed childcare service will operate from two ground floor care rooms located within the Poppintree Community Centre, Ballymun. The two care rooms, Discovery Room and Sensory Room; are proposed to cater for children in the 2 to 6 years age range. The children's toilet is located off the main corridor beside the Sensory room. There are further sanitary facilities available for staff, an office and a kitchen located within the building. There is to be a fully enclosed outdoor area adjacent to the Discovery room.
Staffing	The registered provider will employ up to five staff. Three staff to work directly with the children, the manager and operations manager who will manage the oversight of the service and provide cover where needed across the rooms.

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

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.

<p>Requirement met:</p>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) The proposed service has a designated person in charge and a named staff member is available to deputise as required.</p>
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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 is met.

(1) The registered provider will ensure that an adequate number of adults will work directly with the children to attend the service. It is proposed that there will be up to 5 adults caring for up to 11 part time children.

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:

The requirement is met.

(1)(a) The proposed care rooms will provide adequate and suitable facilities for the children to play indoors.

- There is defined areas of interest in the proposed rooms.
- There is an adequate supply of toys and resources available to support a range of play experiences for the proposed age profile and number of children.
- Furniture in the rooms is suitable for the age and stage of development of the proposed age range of the children.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toys and equipment are stored on shelving, visible and accessible to the children. <p>(1) (b)</p> <p>There are cosy areas available in the care rooms suitable for the proposed age range of children, where they can take a break from activities and rest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a sufficient number of mattresses available for children over two years old, and these mattresses are stored appropriately. • There is an adequate supply bed linen and suitable blankets available. <p>(2)(b) There is an outdoor play area available on the premises, which is fully enclosed, the surface of which is covered with synthetic grass. A range of outdoor toys to facilitate physical play experiences for the proposed age range of children is available.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement is met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All food is provided by the service and prepared in the onsite kitchen. • The service proposes to provide the children with a breakfast on arrival at 9.30am, and a lunch at 12.00pm. Fruit will be available in the care rooms throughout the day. • There is menu plan available documenting that children will receive regular and varied snacks. • There are appropriate facilities available for the storage of perishable food. • Drink stations are available in the care rooms.
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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:

The requirement is met.

- The emergency exits are unobstructed.
- A risk assessment is available for the proposed outdoor play area identifying potential hazards and includes a checklist of protective measures for these hazards.
- A risk assessment is available for the hallway, which the children will use to go to the children’s toilet and the outdoor play area.
- Storage facilities are inaccessible to the children.
- Liquid soap, hygienically dispensed paper towels is available in the children’s toilet.
- Cleaning schedules are in place and the premises was visually clean on the day of the inspection.
- Appropriate waste disposal systems are in place throughout the premises.
- Safe sleep procedures are in place such as a method for recording checks for sleeping children every ten minutes for those children who may require sleep.

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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:

The requirement is met.

(1) Evidence is available that two staff members are trained to First Aid Response Level.

(2) (a) A suitably equipped first box is stored in the Discovery room.

(b) The first aid box was easily accessible and available.

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 firefighting 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 met

(1)(a) There is a template available to record fire drills that take place in the service.

(b) A written record is available to demonstrate the firefighting equipment in the premises was maintained on the on the 8 January 2025 and the smoke alarms were maintained on the 30 July 2024.

(4) There is a notice displayed in the care rooms of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire and fire assembly point is clearly indicated.

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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 requirement is met.

The registered provider has evidence of insurance for a maximum 50 children in a full day care service valid from 28 March 2025 to 27th March 2026. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change 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:

The requirement is partially met.

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

(b) The entrance to the premises is secured with the following system in place:

- Entry to the premises is via the main sports hall entrance with a supervised sign-in desk
- Entry to the hallway is by magnetic door lock system managed by staff.
- Door locks are up high out of reach of children.

(c) The premises is adequately lit, heated and ventilated.

- Windows provide natural lighting to the care room. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with protective covers.
- Heating is provided by gas fuelled radiators.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sensory room has openable windows, and the sanitary accommodation has operational mechanical ventilation. <p>(d) The rooms are clean and in good repair. There is a cleaning schedule available to ensure regular cleaning of the premises.</p> <p>(e) There is an adequate number of sanitary facilities available for the proposed age range and number of children in the service, as outlined below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 638 1493 831"> <thead> <tr> <th>Number of Nappy changing units</th> <th>Number of Toilets</th> <th>Number of Wash hand basins (WHB)</th> <th>Number of children this can accommodate</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>*11</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a suitable step-up available for the toilet and sink. Staff in the service have access to toilets in the community centre. <p>*One toilet and or nappy change unit and one sink is required in the sanitary accommodation for every 11 children.</p>	Number of Nappy changing units	Number of Toilets	Number of Wash hand basins (WHB)	Number of children this can accommodate	1	1	1	*11
Number of Nappy changing units	Number of Toilets	Number of Wash hand basins (WHB)	Number of children this can accommodate						
1	1	1	*11						
<p>Requirement not met:</p>	<p>(c) The Discovery room is not ventilated. There are no openable windows and there is no mechanical system in place. There is a risk the temperature in this room will exceed the required ambient temperatures of between 18 to 22°C. The temperature on the day was 21.3°C, but there was no staff or children present. This poses a potential risk for children.</p> <p>(d) There was no running water in the sink in the Discovery room</p>								
<p>Response from Provider:</p>	<p>(c) The service is liaising with relevant competent person to resolve this issue.</p> <p>(d) Evidence was submitted to show there is now thermostatically controlled warm water available in the sink.</p>								
<p>Summary Comment:</p>	<p>The requirement is partially met for this regulation.</p>								

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The care room will not be fit for use until evidence is submitted to the inspectorate that there is appropriate ventilation available in the care room. Upon receipt of this information, the requirements under Regulation 29(c) will be met.

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) There is adequate clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children proposed to attend the care rooms. A total of 46 square metres is available for the proposed 11 children in the 2-to-6-year age range.

(2) The amount of clear floor space available is demonstrated in the table below:

Room Name	Clear floor space m ² proposed by Registered Provider	Clear floor space m ² measured by EYI	Space required:	Number of children room can accommodate:
Discovery Room	30.5 m ²	25.5 m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3m ²	10 (2-3years old)
Sensory room	24.8 m ²	20.9 m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3m ²	8 (2-3 years old)

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The measurements recorded in (2) are for 11 proposed children attending on a part-time basis.

However, due to Regulation 29, there is no ventilation in the Discovery room, leaving this figure capped at 8 children in the Sensory room.