

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015DY227

Name of Service: Tír na nÓg

Address of Service: Early Childhood Care and Education Centre, Ballymun Day Nursery Ltd, Silogue, Ballymun, Dublin 11, D11 YF66

Email Address: Tirnanog115@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Linda Kelly

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

Proposed change: Change in maximum number of children from 60 to 77
Addition of a care room providing full day care.

Proposed Number of Children: 77

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Full day care from 08:45 – 16:00, for 77 children with an any profile of 2-6 years

Registered change: Change in number of children from 60 to 77 children

Date of Inspection: 1 8 0 7 2 0 2 5

Inspection undertaken by: T. Nelson

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate Area 1, 2nd Floor, Unit 4/5
The Nexus Building, Blanchardstown Corporate Park
Ballycoolin, Dublin 15 | D15 CF9K

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 77 Children
Date of Registration	31st July 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 full time, part time and sessional care to a maximum of 77 children aged from 2 to 6 years old. The service will operate from Monday to Friday, 8.45am to 4.00pm. The service currently provides care on a sessional basis from 8.45am to 11.45am, and from 12.00pm to 3.00pm.
Premises	The proposed childcare service will operate from five care rooms in a detached single storey premises. There are four care rooms to include Rooms 1 and 2 catering for children ages 2 to 3 years, and rooms 3 and 4 catering for children aged 3 to 6 years. Sanitary facilities are available off each of the care rooms. Other facilities include a gym room, a reception area, a kitchen, staff room, staff sanitary accommodation and an office. A fully enclosed outdoor area is available to the rear of the premises, and there is a paved sheltered area directly accessible from each of the rooms to the front of the premises The proposed additional room will cater for up to 13 children on a full-time basis. There is sanitary accommodation directly accessible off the care room.
Staffing	The registered provider proposes to employ up to 21 full and part time staff, including 13 staff to work directly with the children, two housekeeping staff, two caretakers, a chef, a receptionist, an administration worker, the deputy manager and will work in the service managing the oversight of the service and provide cover where needed across the rooms.
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, deputy person in charge, staff and children 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:

The requirement is met.

(1) (a) The proposed service has a designated person in charge and a named staff member 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:

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 22 adults caring for up to 77 full 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 room will provide adequate and suitable facilities for the children to play indoors.
- There is defined areas of interest in the proposed room.
 - 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.
 - Toys and equipment are stored on shelving, visible and accessible to the children.
- (1) (b) There are adequate facilities for a child to rest.
- There is a cosy area available in the care room suitable for the proposed age range of children, where they can take a break from activities and rest.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a sufficient number of low beds available for children over two years old who may wish to sleep, and these mattresses are stored appropriately. • There is an adequate supply of 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 in tarmacadam, grass, mud and bark. 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 meals are provided by the service and prepared in the onsite kitchen. • Four-week menu plans are available documenting that children will receive regular and varied meals. • There are appropriate facilities available for the storage of perishable food. • Drink and snack 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 partially met.

- The emergency exits are unobstructed.
- The blind cords are secured.
- A risk assessment is available in the proposed outdoor play area identifying potential hazards and includes a checklist of protective measures for these hazards.
- The furniture in use is suitable for the age and stage of the proposed age group of the children proposed to attend the service.
- Liquid soap thermostatically controlled warm water and hygienically dispensed paper towels is available in all sinks used by the staff and children.
- Cleaning schedules are in place and the premises was visually clean on the day of the inspection.
- Safe sleep procedures are in place such as a method for recording checks for sleeping children every ten minutes.

Requirement not met:

The following will increase the potential risk of infection:

1. The side panel of the sink unit in the new care room, Room 6 was not finished, leaving chipped wood exposed. This is not a wipeable surface that will be effectively cleaned.
2. There is no suitable means of disposing of nappies in the sanitary area.

Response from Provider:

1. A wipeable side panel has been fitted.
2. A foot pedal operated disposal unit was purchased.

Summary Comment:

The requirement is met.

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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 six staff members are trained to First Aid Response Level.
- (2) (a) A suitably equipped first aid box is stored in the care room and in the office.
- (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 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 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 26 June 2025, and the smoke alarms were maintained on the 24 June 2025.
- (4) There is a notice displayed in the care rooms of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire and a 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.

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 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 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. Entry and exit are managed by staff, and the door is secured by an electronic lock system.

(c)

- 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 thermostatically controlled radiators. The temperature of the care room on the day of the inspection was maintained between 18 and 22°C.

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- The proposed care room and sanitary accommodation has openable windows which provide adequate ventilation.
- (d) The care room is clean, maintained and in good repair. There is a cleaning schedule available to ensure regular cleaning of the rooms.
- (e) There is an adequate and suitable number of sanitary facilities available for the proposed age range and number of children in the service, as outlined below.

Number of Nappy changing units	Number of Toilets	Number of Wash hand basins (WHB)	Number of children this can accommodate
3	9	9	99

- One toilet and or nappy change unit and one sink is required in the sanitary accommodation for every 11 children.
- Staff in the service have access to four toilets.

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:

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 room. A total of 221 square metres is available for the proposed 77 children in the 2-to-6-year age range.

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(4) The clear floor space available is as follows:

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:
Room 1 <i>(existing care room)</i>	42 m ²	47 m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3m ² 2-6 years: 1.181m ² <i>(occasional)</i>	20 full day care
Room 2 <i>(existing care room)</i>	49 m ²	46 m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3m ² 2-6 years: 1.181m ² <i>(occasional)</i>	19 full day care
Room 3 <i>(existing care room)</i>	49 m ²	48 m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3m ² 2-6 years: 1.181m ² <i>(occasional)</i>	20 full day care
Room 4 <i>(existing care room)</i>	48 m ²	48 m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3m ² 2-6 years: 1.181m ² <i>(occasional)</i>	20 full day care

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	Room 6 <i>(additional care room)</i>	33 m ²	32.5m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3m ² 2-6 years: 1.181m ²	13 full day care
	The measurements recorded in (4) are set out above, however the application referred to a maximum of 77 children on a full day care basis.				