

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015DY268

Name of Service High Hopes Montessori and After School

Address of Service: Harolds Cross National School, Clareville Road, Dublin 6W

Email Address: highhopesmontessori@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Mark Glynn

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| Type of Proposed Service: | Full Day Care | | Part-Time | ✓ | Sessional | |
| | Drop-In | | Childminding | | Temporary | |

Proposed change: Addition of a part time service

Proposed Number of Children: 22 (No change)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change to part time service.

Registered change: Change in service type from Sessional to Part Time & Sessional

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| Date of Inspection: | 1 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4 |
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Inspection undertaken by: L.Magee

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:
 Carysfort House
 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock
 Co Dublin

Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

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| Registration Status: | Registered Part Time & Sessional Service for 22 Children |
| Date of Registration | 26 th January 2024 |

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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).

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| Description of Service | This sessional service is located in an urban setting in Harolds Cross. The early years service operates from 8:30am – 12 midday, Monday to Friday during the school term for children aged 2 to 6 years. |
| Premises | The early years service is located within the grounds of Harold Cross primary school and the care and education programme is delivered in one of the care rooms. An enclosed outdoor area is attached to the pre-school service. |
| Staffing | There were four adults present on the day of inspection including the registered provider. Three adults were working directly with the children. The registered provider is the principal of the primary school and does not work directly with the children in the preschool. |
| 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 inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection. |

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 has been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider has ensured that there is a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise if 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 has been met.

(1) There are an adequate number of adults working with the children attending the service at present. The registered provider has an adequate number of adults available to work in the preschool 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.

(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.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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| Requirement met: | <p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) The service consists of one room which is currently in use for pre-school children. The room is bright and spacious and laid out to cater for the age range of children that will be attending the preschool.</p> <p>(1)(b) Suitable rest areas have been provided in the pre-school room.</p> <p>(2)(b) The service has access to a suitable and safe large outdoor play area to the front of the preschool. This has an artificial grass surfacing. There were no ponds, pits or other hazards observed in the outdoor areas.</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.

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| Requirement met: | <p>This requirement has been met. The children will bring in two meals from home which will be stored in the fridge in the preschool room. A snack will be provided by the preschool.</p> |
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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.

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| Requirement met: | <p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>External doors were secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the pre-school. The outdoor area was secured.</p> |
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

There was provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste.
Cleaning schedules were in place.

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 has been met.

(1) There was evidence 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) A suitably equipped first aid box was provided. It was positioned in an easily accessible and conspicuous position, just outside the preschool.

(b) The first aid box is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.

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 has been met.

(1)(a) There was evidence that fire drills are practised monthly in the service.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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| | <p>(1)(b) There was a record available relating to the number, type and maintenance of fire fighting equipment and for the smoke detection system for the premises.</p> <p>(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire were displayed. The fire assembly point was identified.</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:

There was evidence of insurance cover for 22 children, attending on part time basis. This is valid until 27/03/2024.

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 has been met.

- (a) The service is located in a preschool room on the ground floor.
- (b) The door to the main school building is locked and access is controlled by staff. Moving through the main school building, there is one entry point to the preschool service which is secured to allow staff to control access to and from the care room. The outdoor area is secured to prevent a child leaving the area unsupervised.
- (c) The premise benefits from high levels of natural light via windows in the pre-school room. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from down lights. There is a gas heating system in the preschool room.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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| | <p>Windows in the pre-school room can be opened. The windows in the sanitary area can be opened and provide natural ventilation.</p> <p>(d) The service was clean and well maintained and cleaning schedules are in place.</p> <p>(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities have been provided in the service.</p> <p>There are two toilets and two wash hand basins designated for children's use. There is a separate toilet and wash hand basin designated for use by staff. Thermostatically controlled hot water was available and did not exceed 43°C.</p> |
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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.*

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| Requirement met: | <p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) Adequate clear floor space is available for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.</p> <p>(2) The minimum amount of clear floor space for children attending a part time service is 2.35 square metres (2–3-year-old children) and 2.3 square metres (3–6-year-old children).</p> <p>The clear floor space available in the pre-school room is 84 square metres. Clear floor space is available for the work, play and movement to accommodate the number of children that the registered provider proposes to accommodate based on the age range of children attending on a sessional/ parttime basis.</p> |
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