

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015DY350

Name of Service Ringsend Creche Ltd

Address of Service: Thorncastle Street, Ringsend. Dublin 4, D04 P4F3

Email Address: ringsendcreche@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Karen Talbot

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

Proposed change: Change in number of children from 55 to 73 children through the addition of a prefabricated building to the rear of the premises.

Proposed Number of Children: 73

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Up to 73 children to attend the proposed pre-school service on a full day care basis.

Registered change: Change in number of children from 55 to 73 children

Date of Inspection: 2 6 0 3 2 0 2 6

Inspection undertaken by: T. Nelson

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, 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 73 Children
Date of Registration	17 April 2026

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	Ringsend Creche Ltd is a full day care service located in a residential area of Dublin 4 and is currently registered to provide early childhood care and education to a maximum of 55 children aged 1 to 6 years old, Monday to Friday.
Premises	The service currently operates from a ground floor premises adjacent to a community centre and has five care rooms to include the Wobbler Room (12 to 18 months old), Toddler 2 room (18 to 24 months old), Toddler 1 room (2 to 3 years old), and Playgroup and Preschool rooms (3 to 5 years old). There are sanitary facilities located off the main corridor and a cot room located off the Wobbler room. Further sanitary facilities are available for staff both in the premises and in the community centre. A fully enclosed outdoor area is located to the rear of the premises. The proposed new care room will cater for children in the 3 to 6 years age range. It is in a prefabricated building located to the rear of the premises and will be accessed both through the premises and the community centre.
Staffing	The registered provider proposes to employ up to 23 staff; including 19 who will work directly with the children, the person in charge, two deputy persons in charge, and a chef. The registered provider does not work in the service.
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 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 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 is met.

(1) The registered provider stated that an adequate number of adults will work directly with the children attending the service. It is proposed that there will be up to 19 adults caring for the proposed 73 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.*

(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 or*
- (b) where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service*

Requirement met:

The requirement is partially met.

(1)

(a) The proposed care room will provide suitable facilities for the children in the 3 to 6 years age range to play indoors.

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

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	• Toys and equipment are stored on low-level shelving, visible and accessible to the children. (b) There are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day. • There is a cosy area available in the care rooms where children can take a break from activities and rest. • The four cots available are standard cots with suitable wipeable mattresses, and an appropriate supply of bed linen is available. • There are 18 low beds available for children over two years old who may require sleep. (3) (a) There is an outdoor play area available to the rear of the premises which is fully enclosed. A range of outdoor toys to facilitate physical play experiences for the proposed age range is available.
Requirement not met:	(1) (b) There were no suitable floor beds available for children under the age of two-years-old who do not sleep in a cot.
Response from Provider:	Evidence was submitted to show low level floor beds were purchased.
Summary Comment:	The requirement is met.

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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:

The requirement is met.

- There is an on-site kitchen where the service will prepare and provide all meals.
- There is suitable refrigeration in the onsite kitchen and in the care rooms.
- The person in charge stated that children will receive four meals per day, with breakfast on arrival, a mid-morning snack, a hot meal and an afternoon tea. There was documentary evidence available that these meals were varied.
- The person in charge will ensure that suitable alternatives are available for those with additional or alternative dietary requirements and a plan was in place to document food refusal.
- There is a healthy food policy in place.
- Children will have access to drinking water in the care rooms.

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 following are examples of the measures taken to safeguard children:

- The main entrance door to the premises is monitored and managed by staff to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and restrict unauthorised access.
- The outdoor area is secured with fencing and gate.
- Emergency exits are clearly indicated and are unobstructed.
- Shelving and storage units are stable and secure.
- Thermostatically controlled warm water and liquid soap is available in all sinks used by the staff and children.

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	- The rooms were observed to be in a clean and hygienic condition, and there are cleaning checklists available. - Appropriate waste disposal units are available throughout the premises. - Logs are maintained where a sleeping child's colour, breathing and position are checked every ten minutes.
Requirement not met:	General Safety: - The latch on the external door on the proposed new care room is potentially accessible to children, posing a risk children could leave the service unsupervised. - There are no restrictors fitted to the windows in the proposed new care room, these are potentially accessible to children. - There is no visibility strip on the glass on the external door in the proposed new care room. - The press under the sink in the proposed new care room was not secured leaving the water thermostat potentially accessible to children. Safe Sleep: - There is not sufficient documentation available in line with current safe sleep guidance for children under the age of two years who do not sleep in a cot: - Risk assessments are not completed. Risk assessment should be completed before moving a child from a cot to a floor-bed to identify potential hazards and put controls in place. - The documentation available did not adequately show that the move to a floor bed was in line with developmental considerations to facilitate developmentally ready children to sleep on a floor bed.
Response from Provider:	- Evidence was submitted that a latch out of reach of children was fitted. - Evidence was submitted that restrictors were fitted. - Evidence was submitted that visibility stripes were fitted. - Evidence was submitted that the press was secured.

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	5. Evidence was submitted that risk assessment templates and appropriate documentation was developed.
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) Documentary evidence is available that there will be a staff member trained to First aid Responder level available to the children during the operational hours of the service. (2) (a) Suitably equipped first aid boxes are available in easily identifiable locations throughout the premises. (b) The first aid box is easily accessible to adults.
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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 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 partially met. (1) A record of the following is available: (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 smoke alarms were maintained on 26 November 2025. (4) There is a notice displayed in the care rooms of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire with a clear route indicated to the fire assembly point.
Requirement not met:	(1) (b) There was no written record available to demonstrate the fire extinguishers were maintained.
Response from Provider:	Evidence was submitted that the fire extinguishers were maintained.
Summary Comment:	The requirement is met.

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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 of 73 children in a full-time day care service valid from 12 February 2026 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) Documented risk assessments are available for the care rooms.

(c)

- Windows provide natural lighting to the new care room. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with protective covers.

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	- Heating is provided by wall mounted radiators. The temperature of the new care room on the day of the inspection was maintained between 18 and 22°C. - The proposed care room has openable windows, and the sanitary accommodation is fitted with an operating mechanical ventilation system and openable windows. (d) The care room is clean, maintained and in good repair. There is a cleaning schedule available to ensure regular cleaning of the room. (e) There are sufficient sanitary facilities available in the premises outlined below: <table><tr><th>Number of children’s toilets</th><th>Number of nappy change units</th><th>Number of sinks</th></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr></table> - One toilet and one sink is required for every 11 children who use a toilet. - One nappy change unit and one sink is required for every 11 children in nappies. - One toilet and one sink is required for every 8 adults. There are 3 staff toilets available with access to a further 2 toilets in the adjacent community centre.	Number of children’s toilets	Number of nappy change units	Number of sinks	6	2	8
Number of children’s toilets	Number of nappy change units	Number of sinks					
6	2	8					
Requirement not met:	(e) - There is a leak from one of the toilets in the sanitary accommodation off the proposed new care room. - There is no suitable step-up provided to facilitate comfortable access to the toilet and sink in the sanitary accommodation in the main premises.						
Response from Provider:	- Evidence was submitted that the leak was addressed. - Evidence was submitted that a suitable step up is now available.						
Summary Comment:	The requirement is met.						

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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) A total of 181.6m² is available.

There is adequate clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement for up to 73 children to attend the proposed pre-school service on a full day care basis*

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

Room Name	Clear floor space m ² measured by EYI	Space required:	Number of children room can accommodate:
Wobbler Room	17.97 m ²	1-2 years: 2.8 m ²	6 FDC (1-2 yrs)
Toddler 2 Room	22.843 m ²	1-2 years: 2.8 m ² 2-3 years: 2.35 m ²	8 FDC (1-2yrs) 9 FDC (2-3yrs)
Toddler 1 Room	24.9 m ²	2-3 years: 2.35 m ²	10 FDC (2-3 yrs)

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	Playgroup Room	55 m ²	3-6 years: 2.3m ²	23 FDC (3-6 yrs)
	Preschool Room	25.3 m ²	3-6 years: 2.3m ²	11 FDC (3-6 yrs)
	Prefab Room	35.5 m ²	3-6 years: 2.3m ²	15 FDC (3-6 yrs)
*As part of the proposed registered capacity and the limitations of Regulation 29; the space requirements apply to a maximum of 22 children who are in nappies and who do not yet use a toilet.				