

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D:	TU2015FL022
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Name of Service	Bambi's Land Montessori & ASD Playschool
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Address of Service:	2 Coleman Crescent, Lusk Village, Lusk, Dublin, K45FK15
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Email Address:	<a href="mailto:bambis_land@yahoo.ie">bambis_land@yahoo.ie</a>
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Name of Registered Provider:	Ms Claudia Fitzpatrick
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time	✓	Sessional	
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in the number of children that can be accommodated from 22 to 28.</li> <li>Change in number of staff from 7 to 9 staff.</li> </ul>
Proposed Number of Children:	28
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	The increase in numbers cannot be approved due to insufficient sanitary accommodation available to children at the required ratio of 1:11 (see Regulation 29).
Registered change:	Change not approved – Service to remain registered for a maximum of 22 children.

Date of Inspection:	1	8	1	0	2	0	2	3
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Inspection undertaken by:	AM Coyle
Title:	Early Years Inspectors

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	181-189 Lakeshore Drive, Airside Business Park, Swords, Co. Dublin K67 Y5C6.
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### Rationale for Inspection:

#### Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	No Change – Registered Part Time Service for 22 Children
Date of Registration	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2023



Child and Family Agency Act 2013  
Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016

Version 05  
Implemented- Aug 2022  
EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC)

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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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	Bambi's Land Montessori and ASD playschool was established in 2008 as a privately owned Early Years' Service. The service provides part time preschool care and education to children from 2 years 8 Months until they commence attendance at primary school. The service is proposing to operate from 08:30am to 12:45 pm Monday to Friday with children attending the Montessori room on a sessional basis from 09:00am to 12 midday whilst children with autism spectrum disorder are accommodated in the ASD room from 08:30am to 12:45pm. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE) scheme for eligible children.
<b>Premises</b>	Bambi's Land Montessori and ASD playschool is located in the registered providers private residence in Lusk village, north county Dublin. There are 2 care rooms in the service namely the Montessori room and the ASD room. Sanitary facilities are located off the main hallway in the service and directly off the ASD room. An enclosed outdoor area is located to the rear of the service.
<b>Staffing</b>	The service proposes to employ 9 staff members including the registered provider who works directly with the children attending the service with 6 of the 9 staff members working directly with the children attending the ASD room in positions funded through the Department of Education home tuition grant.
<b>Methodology</b>	<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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, who was present on the day of the inspection.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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### 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. The service has designated person in charge and a named deputy.

### 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 is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 2 of Schedule 6 and would ensure that an adequate number of adults would at all times work directly with the children in the service.

### 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 has been met.

(1)(a) The care rooms were resourced with a broad range of play materials and equipment to facilitate children to initiate and sustain meaningful play activities. The play materials were stored at an accessible level to the pre-school children. A secure outdoor area is located to the rear of the service.

(3)(a) The outdoor play area is located to the rear of the service and is fully enclosed by fencing. The outdoor play area was observed to be suitable and secure, and no safety hazards were noted on the day of inspection.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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 children will bring their own lunch and snacks with them to the service. A fridge is provided in the service for the storage of perishable items. Potable water is available for the children to drink.

### 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 has been met.

- The external doors, windows and the outdoor play area were appropriately secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the early years' service.
- The play materials were appropriate for the age range of children proposed to attend the individual care rooms.
- Thermostatically controlled running water was available at the wash hand basins in the service. Liquid soap and paper towels were available for the children's and staff members' use.
- The fire exits are clearly marked in the service.
- Cleaning agents were inaccessible to children, stored in locked cupboards in the care rooms.
- The service's refuse bins were inaccessible to children.

### 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) Two staff members have in date first aid responder training.

(2)(a)  
A well supplied first aid box was available and safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position in the service and was available in the pre-school at all times.

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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 has been met.

(1)(a) A copy of the monthly fire drills was available in the service.

(b) A record is maintained of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke detection system in the service. The firefighting equipment was certified as having been serviced in September 2023 and the fire detection and alarm system in 2023.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the service.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met. An insurance certificate confirming insurance for 28 children attending the service at any one time up until 27/03/2024 was available.

### 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 partially met.

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

(b) The building is safe and secure. The entrance door to the service and the internal door are secured adequately to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service. The service is accessed via an intercom and electronic door release mechanism at a side entrance gate.

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	<p>(c) Both care rooms in the service have windows which provides the rooms with natural light. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Appropriate protective coverings are provided on the ceiling lighting. The temperature of the care rooms was 20°C on the day of inspection.</p> <p>There are sufficient windows provided in all of the care room to achieve adequate ventilation. Mechanical ventilation is available in the sanitary facility located off the hallway in the service.</p> <p>The service is heated by gas fired central heating.</p> <p>(d) The service was in a clean condition on the day of inspection. Cleaning schedules are available.</p> <p>(e) The building is equipped with the following sanitary facilities. There are 2 toilets and 4 wash hand basins available for the children’s use, 1 wash hand basin is located in each of the 2 sanitary areas and there is a wash hand basin for the children’s use in each care room. There is 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin available for staff use which is located on the first floor of the service. Nappy changing facilities are available in the sanitary accommodation directly off the ASD room. Warm water not exceeding 43 °C, liquid soap and paper towels are provided at all the wash hand basins in the service.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	(e)The service has inadequate toilets available for the 28 children the service proposes to accommodate. There are 2 toilets provided for the children’s use in the service one located off the main hallway in the service, and one located directly off the ASD room. One toilet is required for every 11 children attending the service.
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	No corrective or preventative actions have been received from the registered provider.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	As the service has 2 toilets available for the children to use, the service can accommodate a maximum of 22 children at any one time and is unable to increase the number attending the service to 28 children.

### 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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<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) There is adequate free floor space available for the safety, play and movement of the number of children proposed to attend the service.</li><li>(2) The minimum space regulatory requirement can be met for the proposed number of 28 preschool attending the service on a sessional basis. The registered provider is aware of the minimum clear floor space requirements as specified in schedule 7.</li></ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The clear floor space of the Montessori room is 29.1 m<sup>2</sup>. This provides sufficient space for the 16 children between the age of 2 years 8 months to 5 years to be cared for in this room on a sessional ECCE basis.</li><li>• The clear floor space of the ASD room is 25.1 m<sup>2</sup>. This provides sufficient space for 12 children between the age of 2 years 8 months to 5 years to be cared for in this room on a sessional ECCE basis or 10 children attending on a full day care or part time basis.</li></ul>
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