

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D:	TU2015FL102							
Name of Service	Giraffe Childcare Clonsilla							
Address of Service:	Station Court Road, Clonsilla Road, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 D15XY81							
Email Address:	info@giraffe.ie							
Name of Registered Provider:	Dearbhala Cox Giffin							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed change:	The service proposes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of children cared for by 32 children, from 116 to 148. • Increase the number of staff in the service from 31 to 35 							
Proposed Number of Children:	148							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Approve all changes							
Registered change:	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 116 to 148 Change in number of staff from 31 to 35							
Date of Inspection:	2	1	0	7	2	0	2	3
Inspection undertaken by:	A. Bradshaw and T. Nelson							
Title:	Early Years Inspectors							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Brunel Building, Heuston Quarter, Inchicore, Dublin 8							

Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 148 Children
Date of Registration	5 th September 2023

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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).

<p>Description of Service</p>	<p>Giraffe Childcare Clonsilla is full day care service located in an urban area in Dublin 15. The service is privately owned and is one of twenty-one childcare services operated by the registered provider. The service is currently registered to provide early childhood care and education to a maximum of 116 children aged 0-5 years and is proposing to increase this number by 32 children to 148 children and to increase the number of staff in the service from 31 to 35.</p>
<p>Premises</p>	<p>The service operates from a purpose-built single storey building with ten care rooms, including two new rooms. There are three dedicated cot rooms which are available for the younger children. Each room has its own sanitary area. An enclosed outdoor space is positioned to the rear of the building with a small outdoor area off the baby room.</p>
<p>Staffing</p>	<p>The registered provider does not work directly with the children and employs 31 staff. The area manager and two service managers facilitated the inspection.</p>
<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>

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Acknowledgements	The Inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the area manager, and the two managers who were present on the day of the inspection.
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Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment	
<i>(1) A registered provider shall ensure that—</i>	
<i>(a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1)(a) The service has two designated persons in charge and a named deputy. The names of the designated persons in charge and the deputy designated person are displayed in the hallway.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels	
<i>(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.</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1) The persons in charge stated that they would ensure that an adequate number of adults will be working directly with the children attending the service. There will be 35 adults caring for up to 148 children on a full-time basis.

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 has been met.

(1)(a)(b) The layout of the two new rooms allow children the space and freedom to move around and choose their activity. The rooms have areas of interests defined with the use of furniture and floor coverings. For example, both rooms have a role play area with dress up clothes, a play kitchen with accessories, a library with a wide variety of books, a sensory tray with props, an arts and craft stations with paints, paper, colouring pencils, and an easel. The table top activities were attractively displayed and available to the children on low shelving. Some examples are threading, construction, and connecting materials.

The equipment and toys are stored on low level shelving and accessible to the children. There are sufficient tables and chairs to accommodate children to sit and eat their snack or work independently with tabletop materials.

The library in each room is away from the main play area and is furnished with a large deep pile rug and cushions. The person in charge described how this space will be used

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	<p>by the children if they want a break from their play. There are also sleep mats available if a child needs to rest during the day.</p> <p>(2)(b) The two rooms have access to a large garden in an enclosed courtyard. This has a soft surface and is divided into designated areas to allow for the older and younger children to play freely. There is a solid climbing structure with varying levels of challenge for the children.</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 has been met.</p> <p>On the day of inspection there was a four-week summer menu available. This included breakfast, a morning snack, dinner, tea and an evening snack. There is water and milk served with each meal. In addition, there is a water station in each room.</p> <p>The food is prepared on site by a chef and the healthy eating policy is available for staff and parents.</p> <p>Each room has a fridge to store any perishable food.</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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been partially met.

- The main entrance door to the service is appropriately monitored. This system adequately secures the front of the building to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service. There is a buzzer system to unlock the doors.
- The garden exits are secured and have an electronic keypad to open the gates.
- The window openings of the service are positioned at a high level and have restrictors installed.
- The tables and chairs in the care rooms which will be used for tabletop activities and mealtimes are at the appropriate height for the age of children accommodated in the room.
- All storage of waste both indoors and outdoors, and cleaning materials, are inaccessible to the children.
- All cables and flexes are adequately secured to reduce the potential risks to a child.
- Shelving and storage units are stable and secure.
- There is warm water, soap, and disposable hand towels in the children’s sanitary area to ensure effective hand washing is carried out.
- The cleaning products are stored on a high shelf out of children’s reach.
- The low presses under the sink units have locks on the doors preventing children’s access.
- Flexes and cables are fixed to the wall securely.

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Requirement not met:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The temperature of the water in the adult's sink in the nappy changing area in Room 2 was 60°C at 10.46am. This is not conducive to effective hand washing. 2. There was no disposable unit for soiled nappies in the nappy changing unit in Room 2 which may result in a risk of cross infection and malodours in this room. 3. There are no visibility strips on low level windows or glass doors creating a risk of children walking or running into them.
Response from Provider:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The registered provider stated that the temperature of the water in the adults sink in the nappy changing was rectified and now is at the correct temperature effective for handwashing. Once the room is open and in use the water temperatures in all sinks and the condition of the bins will be checked daily and recorded in the rooms Safety Diaries. 2. The registered provider stated that a bin has been put in place to dispose of nappies. 3. The registered provider stated that visibility strips have been added to the doors around the centre. Management will ensure the continuous use of visibility strips on the doors in the centre.
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been 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 has been met.

- (1) Three staff members including the two managers are trained to the First Aid Responder level and are available to the children at all times.
- (2) (a)(b) First Aid boxes are stored in a press in both rooms with conspicuous signage on the press door.

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 has been partially met.

- (1)(a) A copy of the recent fire drills over the past six months are available.

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	(1)(b) A record is available of the number, type and maintenance of the fire extinguishers, and smoke detection system of the service. Fire extinguishers were serviced in April 2023 and the smoke alarms were serviced in April 2023.
Requirement not met:	(4) Fire assembly points notices were not evident outside the building which may lead to confusion if the building had to be evacuated in an emergency. The assembly points are clearly marked on the evacuation procedures which are displayed in each room.
Response from Provider:	The registered provider stated that new fire assembly points signs were erected around the building to reflect the evacuation.
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.

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. The service has insurance to cover a maximum of one hundred and forty-eight children on a full-time basis. The expiry date on the insurance certificate is the 16 December 2023.
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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) During the inspection it was observed that the walls, flooring, doors, and windows are suitably maintained.

(b) The main entrance door to the service is managed with a buzzer system by a staff member. The system in place adequately secures the entrance to the building to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the premises.

(c) Each care room has windows which provide natural lighting. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting which is covered and recessed and is flush with the ceiling. The rooms have air conditioning units which are thermostatically controlled.

(d) The care rooms were in a clean condition on the day of inspection. A cleaning schedule is available in the care rooms to ensure regular cleaning of the service.

(e) Each care room has a sanitary area adjacent with two toilets and two wash hand basins in each. Both of the sanitary areas have a nappy changing unit if required. Staff have access to the building's staff toilets. Warm water, liquid soap, and disposable paper towels were provided in the sanitary facilities.

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

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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 has been met.

- (1) The clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play, and movement of children attending the service is adequate for the additional 32 full-time preschool children proposed.
- (2) The clear floor space available in Room 1 measured 40.16 square metres and Room 2 measured 40.8 square metres.