

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015FL111

Name of Service Hartstown Montessori School

Address of Service: Hartstown Community Centre.
Hartstown,
Dublin 15.
D15 C590

Email Address: giurgi.gabi@yahoo.com

Name of Registered Provider: Maria Gabriela Bujoreanu

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

Proposed change:	The service proposes to temporarily move from a care room in the main community centre to a prefabricated building to the rear of the centre.
Proposed Number of Children:	11 children aged from 2 to 5 years of age.
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	11 children aged from 2 to 5 years of age.
Registered change:	Sessional Service for 11 Children, 2 -5 Years

Date of Inspection:	1	2	0	1	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by: E Hosford

Title: Early years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate,
Child and Family Agency,
Unit 4&5 Nexus Building Block 6A,
Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15.

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Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Sessional Service for 11 Children, 2 -5 Years
Date of Registration	19 th January 2024

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	Hartstown Montessori School is a private childcare service which operates from a ground floor care room in Hartstown community centre. Due to planned renovations to the community centre the service is proposing to temporarily move to a prefabricated single storey building to the rear of the premises. The service will provide sessional education and care to children aged from 2 to 5 years of age and operate a morning session from from 9am to 12pm and an afternoon session from 12:30pm to 3:30pm Monday to Friday. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE).
Premises	Due to planned renovations to the community centre the service is proposing to temporarily move to a prefabricated single storey building to the rear of the premises. The children will have access to an enclosed outdoor area to the side of the building and an indoor hall within the community centre.
Staffing	The service employs three staff members to include the registered provider and two childcare staff. The registered provider does not work directly with the children but is available if required.
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.

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	<p>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	<p>The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.</p>

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment	
<p>(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.</p>	
Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named staff member is available to deputise as required.</p>

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels	
<p>(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.</p> <p>(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)— (c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.</p>	
Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p>

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(1) The registered provider has ensured that an adequate number of adults will be working directly with the children attending the service. There will be 2 adults caring for a maximum of 11 children attending on a sessional care basis.

(8)(c) Not applicable as there are two adults on the premises at all times.

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.

(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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The prefabricated building comprises of one care room which will be laid out in defined areas of interest to include A homecorner/kitchen area, library, and construction area. A range of suitable toys and materials will be displayed on low level shelving accessible to the children. The service has access to a sports hall within the community centre and an enclosed outdoor area to the side of the prefabricated building.

(1)(b) The requirement has been met. The service has cosy areas available in the care room to enable a child to take a break from activities if needed. The areas consisted of soft matting, mats, soft toys, and books.

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	<p>The service does not provide an overnight pre-school service.</p> <p>(2)(b) The requirement has been met.</p> <p>The service has an outdoor area to the side of the premises enclosed by buildings and a fence which is currently under renovation. When completed the area will be surfaced with grass and will have equipment and materials available to the children to include balls, ride on toys and games.</p> <p>(3) (a) A secure outdoor space to which the children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.</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>A healthy eating policy is in operation within the service with parents providing the snack eaten by the children during the session. Additional snacks are available should a child require food. Drinking water is available in the care room and accessible to the children throughout the session.</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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main entrance door which leads into the service is appropriately secured with a lock to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service.
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- The window openings of the service are appropriately secured and out of children’s reach.
- The play materials and equipment in the service are stored on stable-based shelving units. The play materials and equipment were observed to be safe and suitable for the developmental age of the proposed children.
- The tables and chairs in the care room that are used for tabletop activities and mealtimes are the appropriate height for the age of children accommodated in the room.
- A refrigerator is available to store children’s perishable food items from home on arrival to the service.
- The emergency exit door of the service is unobstructed.
- The outdoor area is surrounded with buildings and a fence, therefore preventing a child from exiting the area and preventing unauthorised access to the service.
- All storage of waste both indoors and outdoors is inaccessible to the children.
- A system is available for the safe storage of cleaning agents and equipment.

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) One staff member has First Aid Responder certification which expires on 22 November 2025.

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(2)(a) and (b) The first aid box is suitably equipped and safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position in the care room of the service and was available 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 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 met.

(1) (a) A template is available to record fire drills that take place in the service.

(b) A record was maintained of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke detection system of the service. The firefighting equipment was serviced on the 21 December 2023 and the smoke detection system was serviced on the 20 December 2023.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the care room. A fire assembly notice was clearly displayed in the car park to the front of the community centre.

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 11 children dated from 28 March 2023 to 27 March 2024.

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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) The premises appears to be of sound and stable structure.

(b) The main entrance door which leads into the service is appropriately secured with a lock to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service.

(c) The windows in the care room provide natural lighting which can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required.

Ceiling lights were fitted with shatter proof coverings.

The service is heated by electricity with thermostatically controlled wall mounted radiators with a temperature not exceeding 50°C. The temperature of the care room was recorded at 18.7°C on the day of inspection.

The windows provide sufficient ventilation.

The sanitary facilities have mechanical ventilation and an openable window to provide adequate ventilation and to extract stale air.

(d) The care room was in a clean condition on the day of inspection. A cleaning schedule is available in the care room, and sanitary facilities to ensure regular cleaning of the service.

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	<p>(e) The sanitary facilities in the service comprised of one children’s toilet and one wash hand basin.</p> <p>Warm water not exceeding 43°C, liquid soap and an electric hand dryer was provided in the sanitary facility. Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of paper and food waste in the care room.</p> <p>Staff members use a separate sanitary facility in the main community centre.</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.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a sessional pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre shall ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*
- (4) *Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—*
(a) a sessional pre-school service.

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The registered provider ensured that adequate clear floor space was available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the service.</p> <p>(2) The minimum clear floor space of 24.40 square metres is available to accommodate the 11 children of the proposed age of between 2-5 years of age on a sessional basis.</p> <p>(3) The registered provider ensured that a minimum space of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service on a sessional basis.</p> <p>(4)(a) The minimum clear floor space is available for the duration of the sessional preschool service.</p>
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