

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D.:** TU2015FL132

**Name of Service** Kid-e-Winks Montessori

**Address of Service:** 147 Glasmore Park, Swords, Co. Dublin K67 HK53

**Email Address:** patriciayoung147@hotmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Patricia Young

<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sessional</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Drop-In</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Childminding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Proposed change:** Proposal to change from two sessions per day from 8.45-11.45am to 12-3pm to part time from 9am to 2pm Monday to Friday.

**Proposed Number of Children:** 20 children

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** To provide part time care from 9am – 2pm for 20 children aged 2-6 years.

**Registered change:** Additional Service Type from Sessional to Part-Time & Sessional  
Change in Hours from 08:45 – 11:45 & 12:00 – 15:00 to 09:00 – 14:00

**Date of Inspection:**

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**Inspection undertaken by:** E Hosford

**Title:** Early Years Inspector

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

**Rationale for Inspection:**  
**Proposed Change of Circumstance**

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Part-Time & Sessional Service for 20 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> March 2025

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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>	Kid-e-Winks Montessori is a privately owned sessional service located in an urban setting in North County Dublin. The service curriculum ethos is a blend of the Montessori approach and emergent and inquiry-based teaching and learning. The service also has a well-developed outdoor area to the rear of the premises.
<b>Premises</b>	The sessional service is operated from 3 care rooms within the registered providers private residence. Kid-e-Winks Montessori is currently open Monday to Friday from 8.45am – 11.45am and 12.00pm – 3.00pm for 38 weeks of the year as it participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme
<b>Staffing</b>	On the day of the inspection there were 4 adults working with the children, including the registered provider.
<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, 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:

(1)(a) The registered provider was the designated person in charge of the service and there was a named person appointed 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.*
- (8) *Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—*
- (b) *a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and*
- (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.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) The registered provider has ensured that an adequate number of adults will be working directly with the children attending the pre-school service. There will be 4 adults caring for a maximum of 20 pre-school children attending on a sessional and part time basis during the operation of the service.
- (8)(b) Not applicable as this is a proposed part-time day-care service.
- (c) Not applicable as this is a proposed part-time day-care 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 or*

#### Requirement met:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met.

The care rooms had well defined areas of interest which incorporated natural materials, and a range of suitable toys placed on low level shelving accessible to the children. The service has a well-developed and inviting outdoor area to the rear of the premises.

(b) The requirement has been met. A cosy area is available in the care room for children to take a break from activities if needed and two low beds are available if a child requires to sleep.

The service does not provide an overnight pre-school service.

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(3)(a) The requirement has been met.  
The service has an outdoor area to the rear of the premises enclosed by walls and a wooden fence. The surface consists of a paved and bark surface. A storage shed is located at the end of the outdoor area where play equipment can be brought out as needed. The equipment available consisted of mud kitchens, a large sand tray, dolls and prams, balance beams and climbing frame.

### 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.  
A healthy eating policy is in operation within the service with parents providing the snacks eaten by the children during the part time 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

### 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 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.
- 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 wall, 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.

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- 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 26 February 2026.

(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.

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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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) (a) A template is available to record fire drills that take place in the service.</p> <p>(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 11 June 2024 and the smoke detection system was serviced on the 6 February 2025.</p> <p>(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the care rooms. A fire assembly notice was clearly displayed in the garden to the front of the service.</p>
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### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>The service has an insurance proposal to cover 20 children dated from 20 January 2025 to 27 March 2025 on a part time basis.</p>
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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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(a) The premises appears to be of sound and stable structure.</p>
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(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 rooms 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 thermostatically controlled wall mounted radiators with a temperature not exceeding 50°C. The temperature of the care rooms was recorded at 18.5-18.6°C on the day of inspection.

The windows provide sufficient ventilation.

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

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

(e) The sanitary facilities in the service comprised of two children's toilets and two wash hand basins.  
Warm water not exceeding 43°C, liquid soap and paper hand towels are provided in the sanitary facility. Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of paper and food waste in the care room.  
Staff members use a separate sanitary facility in the main residential dwelling.

**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, and*
  - (b) *a full day care service or a part-time day care service, or both, the minimum clear floor space applicable for the duration of the sessional preschool service in respect of the children attending that service shall be the floor space specified in paragraph (3).*

**Requirement met:**

The requirement has been met.

(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.

(2) The minimum clear floor space of 45.66 square metres is available to accommodate the 20 children of the proposed age of between 2-6 years of age on a sessional and part time basis.

(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.

(4)(a)(b) The minimum clear floor space is available for the duration of the sessional and part time preschool service.