

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015FL136

Name of Service: Charlies Childcare Ltd

Address of Service: Unit 18 Bayside Shopping Centre
Sutton
Dublin 13
D13 C56T

Email Address: ronniec@charlieschildcare.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Ronnie Carroll

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

Proposed change: Proposal to lower the age range in the service from 2 - 6 years, to 1 - 6 years.

Proposed Number of Children: 105

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change in Age Profile from 2-6 years to 1-6 years

Registered change: Change in Age Profile from 2-6 years to 1-6 years

Date of Inspection:	0	7	0	8	2	0	2	4
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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

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional, 105 Children
Date of Registration	23rd August 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	<p>Charlies Childcare Ltd. is a privately owned service located in Dublin 13, currently registered to provide full day care to a maximum of 105 children aged 2 to 6 years. The service is registered to operate from 7.45am to 6.15pm and is one of nine services operated by the registered provider.</p> <p>The service proposes to provide full day care to children from 1-6 years of age.</p>
Premises	<p>The service currently operates from the first floor of a commercial building and comprises of five care rooms. There is sanitary accommodation available for staff and children, a kitchen, office and staff room. An enclosed outdoor play area is accessible off the main corridor in the premises.</p> <p>There is a cot room available directly off the care room for the children in the proposed 1-2 years age range.</p>
Staffing	<p>The proposed care-room will have three full time staff members. The service currently employs 15 staff. This includes the person in charge and deputy person in charge who manage the oversight of the service, 10 staff who work directly with the children, two staff who provide cover where needed across the rooms, a chef and one cleaner.</p> <p>The registered provider does not work in the service.</p>
Methodology	<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</p>

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	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, senior management team, 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 proposed service has a designated person in charge and a named staff member is available to deputise as required.

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 has proposed that 3 adults will be working with the 13 children attending the proposed childcare room.

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 is partially met.

(1)(a) The proposed care room will provide adequate and suitable facilities for the children to play indoors.

- There is defined areas of interest in the room.
- 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 age range of the children.
- Toys and equipment are stored on low-level shelving, visible and accessible to the children.

(1) (b)

- There is a cosy area available in the care room suitable for the proposed age range of children, where they can take a break from activities and rest.
- There is a cot room available with 8 cots each supplied with appropriate mattress covers and laid out with sufficient space available between each cot.
- There is an adequate supply of bed linen and cellular blankets available.

(2)(b) There is an outdoor play area available on the premises, which is fully enclosed, the surface of which is covered with synthetic grass. A range of outdoor toys to facilitate physical play experiences for the proposed age range of children is available. Outdoor play is rostered to allow daily access.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Requirement not met:	<p>(1)(b) There was not adequate and suitable facilities for rest for the proposed age range of children.</p> <p>1. There are not sufficient cots or low beds available for the proposed number and age range of the children who will attend as outlined below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="456 465 1490 685"> <thead> <tr> <th>Childs age</th> <th>Number of children</th> <th>Number of cots/ low beds required</th> <th>Number of cots available</th> <th>shortfall</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>12 -18 months</td> <td>13</td> <td>9</td> <td>8</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18-24 months</td> <td>13</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>It is acknowledged that eight cocoon style low beds have been ordered and had not arrived in time for the inspection.</p> <p>2. There is no designated area available to adequately store the low beds when not in use.</p>	Childs age	Number of children	Number of cots/ low beds required	Number of cots available	shortfall	12 -18 months	13	9	8	1	18-24 months	13	7	8	0
Childs age	Number of children	Number of cots/ low beds required	Number of cots available	shortfall												
12 -18 months	13	9	8	1												
18-24 months	13	7	8	0												
Response from Provider:	<p>1. Evidence was submitted that the cocoon beds are now available to the children.</p> <p>2. Evidence was submitted that there is a designated enclosed room available for the storage of beds when not in use.</p>															
Summary Comment:	The requirement is met.															

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 is met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four-week menu plans are available documenting that children will receive regular and varied meals. All meals are provided by the service and prepared in the onsite kitchen. The hot meal will be provided by an external catering company.
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 met.

- The emergency exits are unobstructed.
- All windows were fitted with restrictors.
- A risk assessment is available in the proposed care room which identifies potential hazards and includes a checklist of protective measures for these hazards.
- The furniture in use is suitable for the age and stage of the proposed age group of the children proposed to attend the service.
- Liquid soap, hygienically dispensed paper towels and thermostatically controlled warm water is available in all sinks used by the staff and children.
- Procedures are in place for the appropriate cleaning and sterilisation of mouthed toys and soothers.
- Cleaning schedules are in place and the premises was visually clean on the day of the inspection.
- Safe sleep procedures are in place such as risk assessments for children under two years of age who will sleep on a low bed.

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) Evidence is available that two staff members are trained to First Aid Response Level.
- (2)(a)(b) A suitably equipped first aid box is readily available in the care room.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 is partially met

(1)(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 firefighting equipment in the premises was maintained on the on the 6 June 2024 and the smoke alarms were maintained on the 30 July 2024.

(4) There is a notice displayed in the care rooms of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire.

Requirement not met:

(4) A fire assembly notice was not visible outside of the service to enable staff and children to identify the fire assembly point.

Response from Provider:

Evidence was submitted that there is a visible fire assembly point outside the service.

Summary Comment:

The requirement is met.

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 provided evidence of appropriate insurance for up to 105 children in a full day care service, from the 28 March 2024 to 27 March 2025.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 met.

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

(b) The entrance door to the service is secured adequately to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons from gaining access. Entry is by electronic door release which is managed and monitored by staff.

(c) The premises is adequately lit, heated and ventilated.

- Windows provide natural lighting to the care room. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with protective covers.
- Heating is provided by thermostatically controlled radiators.
- The temperature of the care room on the day of the inspection was maintained between 18 and 22°C.
- The proposed care room, cot room and the sanitary accommodation have openable windows.

(d) The room is clean, maintained and in good repair. There is a cleaning schedule available to ensure regular cleaning of the room.

(e) There is adequate and suitable sanitary accommodation available for the proposed age range and number of children in the service, as outlined below.

Number of Nappy changing units	Number of Toilets	Number of Wash hand basins (WHB)	Number of children this can accommodate
4	10	10	105

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

- One toilet and or nappy change unit and one sink is required in the sanitary accommodation for every 11 children.
- Staff in the service have access to three toilets.

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) There is adequate clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children proposed to attend the care room. A total of 37 square metres is available for the proposed 13 children in the 1-to-2-year age range.

(2) The clear floor space available measures 37 square metres ensuring a minimum amount of 2.8 square metres of clear floor space for each child attending the proposed care-room in respect of the proposed age range of 1-2 years.

This provides clear floor space for 13 children attending on a full day care basis