

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015FL322

Name of Service: Tigers Childcare

Address of Service: Tyrrelstown Community Centre, Hollywood Road, Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15, D15PWY2

Email Address: Info@tigerschildcare.com

Name of Registered Provider: Ms. Karen Cline

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

Proposed change: The service proposes to increase the number of children being cared for from 22 to 33 in an additional care room.

Proposed Number of Children: Maximum of 33 children at any one time.

Registered change: Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 22 to 33

Date of Inspection: 1 4 0 9 2 0 2 3

Inspection undertaken by: Aileen Bradshaw

Title: Early Years Inspector

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 Sessional Service for 33 Children

Date of Registration 6th October 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).

Description of Service	<p>Tigers Childcare is a privately owned sessional pre-school service for children aged between two years and eight months and school going age. The service runs from 9.15am to 12.15pm, Monday to Friday for thirty-eight weeks of the year. The service caters for up to 22 children at any one time with three staff. The registered provider proposes to increase this number to 33 with 4 staff members and adding an additional session running from 9.30-12.30pm.</p> <p>The service provides a school age service also.</p>
Premises	<p>Tigers Childcare is located on the first floor in Tyrrelstown Community Centre. The service currently operates from one large bright room with children’s sanitary accommodation adjacent. The service proposes to use an additional room for the new session. The service shares a grass area and large yard with a local primary school.</p>
Staffing	<p>There are currently three staff employed caring for 22 children. This includes the person in charge.</p> <p>The registered provider does not work with the children. The quality development manager facilitated the inspection.</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 two themes; Governance, and Safety.</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 presented to the Registration Panel for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving continued registration. 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 quality development manager and staff who were present on the day of the inspection.</p>

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.

(1)(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy. The name of the designated person in charge and the deputy designated person are displayed in the hallway.

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 proposes to employ 4 staff members to care for 33 children.

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.

(4) Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a)(b) The layout of the new room allows children the opportunity and freedom to move around and choose their activity. The room has areas of interests defined with the use of furniture. For example, the play materials and space available for the children include: a role play area with dress up clothes, a play kitchen, a library with a variety of books, and an arts and craft station with paints, paper, crayons, and an easel. The table top activities were attractively displayed and available to the children on low shelving. Examples of the table top equipment available are pegs and peg boards, latch boards, jigsaws and construction 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 is located away from the main play area and is furnished with a large soft mat and various sized cushions where children will be able to take a rest if required.

(4) The service shares the outdoor space with the adjacent primary school. This area is surrounded by a large fence and a gate with a bolt. The children have access to outdoor equipment such as ride on toys and balls which are stored in a large water tight container.

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 quality development manager stated that children will bring their snack to school, and any perishable food will be stored in the services fridge in the communal kitchen. The service has a healthy eating policy which includes information for parents regarding suggestions for healthy snacks. The policy also states that any child who does not eat breakfast will be accommodated with food in the service. There is a drinking station in the room with cups and a jug for water.

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 entrance to the service is through the reception of the Community Centre, which is staffed throughout the day. This prevents any unauthorised person entering the service.
- The windows in the room are openable have restrictor bars attached.
- The tables and chairs in the care room, which will be used for tabletop activities and mealtimes, are at the appropriate height for the age of the children to be accommodated in the room.
- All storage of waste both indoors and outdoors, and cleaning materials, are inaccessible to the children.
- Shelving and storage units are stable and secure.
- A cleaning checklist was available for the room and the sanitary area and nappy change area.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The waste bin in the care room is pedal operated. • As the children’s toilet and nappy changing area are part of the public community centres facilities, there was a risk assessment form for completion by staff member daily. This risk assessment included supervision when children use the sanitary facilities located off the main hallway. • The flexes from electrical appliances and the phone were secured. • The large radiators under the windows have radiator covers to prevent children accessing the heat source.
Requirement not met:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The pond in the nature garden in the school playground which the service has shared access to has a goldfish pond. The pond was not adequately secured. A low-level timber fence which the children could trip or step over created a drowning risk.
Response from Provider:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The registered provider stated that a safety pond grid was installed to eliminate the risk of a child drowning. The grid enables children to experience the benefits of the pond while ensuring their safety. Management and colleagues will remain vigilant to the dangers of a pond and will continue to supervise children closely in this area. Photos of the grid and an invoice from the installation company was submitted as supporting evidence.
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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) Two staff members are trained to the First Aid Responder level and are rostered to cover the opening hours of the service and are thereby available to the children at all times.
- (2) (a)(b) The First Aid box is stored on an accessible shelf in the care room.

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 recent fire drills over the past three months are available. The last drill was carried out on the 5 June 2023.
- (1)(b) The fire detection system was serviced on the 18 August 2023. The smoke alarms were serviced on the 21 March 2023 and the firefighting equipment in April 2023.
- (4) The procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the room and the assembly points are displayed in the front and rear of the building.

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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 33 children on a sessional basis. The expiry date on the insurance certificate is the 27 March 2024.

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 building is managed by staff from the community centre. The system in place secures the entrance to the building to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the premises.

(c) The proposed care room has openable 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 room has a digital thermometer to support the maintenance of the optimal temperature for those using the room. The toilet cubicles have mechanical ventilation systems in addition to openable windows to provide adequate ventilation.

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

(e) The service proposed to use the public sanitary area which is part of the community centre facilities. The community centre has provided a written undertaking that the public ladies toilet will be a dedicated sanitary area for the children attending the early years' service between the hours of 9.30 to 12.30pm. Signage is to be installed and all community staff members are to be informed. The nappy changing facilities are part of the community centres facilities and in the accessible sanitary area.

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 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 13 full-time preschool children proposed.
- (2)

Room	Additional ECCE room
Clear Floor Space	30.30 square metres
Age Range	18 months to 5 years
Proposed number of children	11