

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015GY045

Name of Service Tir Na nOg

Address of Service: Unit 5, Enterprise Centre, Clonberne, Ballinasloe, Co.Galway

Email Address: tirnanogclonberne@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Noreena Miskell

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

Proposed change:

- Increase number from 48 to 62 children, additional playroom. (extension)
- Change of operation hours from 8:00 am to 18:00pm to 8:00am to 17:30pm.
- Increase number of staff from 8 to 16 adults.

Proposed Number of Children: 62 children.

Recommended Change Following Inspection:

To increase number of children from 48 to 62 children.
Change opening hours to 8:00 am to 17:30pm.
To increase staff from 8 to 16 adults.

Registered change:

Change in Number of Children from 48 to 62 children
Change in Hours of Operation from 08:00 – 18:00 to 08:00 – 17:30
Change in Number of Staff – from 8 to 16 staff

Date of Inspection: 1 4 0 2 2 0 2 5

Inspection undertaken by: F Kelly.

Title: Early Years Inspector.

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, Quality and Regulation Directorate, Child and Family Agency, Clinical & Administration Building, Block A (1st Floor), Merlin Park, Galway.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 62 children
Date of Registration	10th March 2025

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	This full day care service is located in a rural setting in north, Co Galway. A childcare service is provided to children aged between 0 and 6 years. The service is open from Monday to Friday between 08:00am and 6:00pm hours. A school age service is also provided.
Premises	It is a purpose-built childcare service in an enterprise centre in Clonberne village, Co Galway. It comprised of 3 playrooms and 1 dedicated sleep room. It also an outdoor play area at the side/rear of the building. An extension was built at the rear of the premises with an additional playroom, which was subject to the fit for purpose inspection.
Staffing	The proposed number of staff to work in the service was 8 adults. The registered provider works in the service on a daily basis.
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 administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.</p>
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 person in charge and there was a named person who could 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.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—

(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times, 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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met. The service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.

(8)(a) The registered provider ensured that there were at least 2 adults on the premises at all times. A review of the staff roster indicated that at least 2 staff will be rostered to be on the premises at all times during the operational hours at the service.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

- (1)(a) On the day of inspection, the 4 playrooms were equipped with toys and equipment taking into account the age profile of the children proposed to attend and the amount of time they propose to spend in the playrooms.
- (b) There were adequate, and suitable rest facilities available for the proposed number of children that may attend. The children aged over 2 years of age will be put down to sleep in a playroom, assigned specifically for sleep when required.
- There were an adequate number of stackable beds and linen available for children over 2 years of age to rest during the day.
- A separate sleep room containing 4 cots was available. Physical sleep checks on each child will be recorded on an App.
- (2)(b) A safe secure outdoor space was available on site for outdoor play for the children. Safety in the outside play area has been included in the risk assessment policy for the service.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

Nutritious snacks and drinks will be provided by parents and refrigerated where required.

A healthy eating policy and three-week menu plan for the service has been documented and is available. A chef/cook was employed, and dinners will be cooked daily on site.

Water stations will be set up in each room where children will have access to water when required.

Alternative meals and snacks will be available where required.

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 door was secured preventing unauthorised access and preventing a child leaving the service.
- Storage for cleaning materials and equipment was provided in a secure area in a cupboard out of reach of the children.
- Water temperatures at the wash hand basins were maintained at or below 43°C. A water temperature of 38.1°C was recorded in the wash basin in the children’s sanitary in the new extension.
- Window blinds cords did not pose a potential hazard to the children as they were attached to hooks on the wall to make them safe.
- Toys and play equipment were safe and suitable for the age of children using them.
- Risk assessment safety checklists were available for both indoors in the playroom and in the outdoor play area.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

- (1) The requirement has been met as the staff has current paediatric First Aid Responder Course completed.
- (2)(a) The registered provider has ensured that the service is equipped with first aid boxes.
- (b) The first aid boxes were available to children when required.

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) Arrangements were in place to record fire drills.
- (b) A record of the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and fire alarms in the service was on file. A record of the maintenance of the fire alarms system equipment stated they were checked in 26/04/2024 and a record of the maintenance of the firefighting equipment stated they were checked in 19/04/2024.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the hallways.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 as adequate insurance has been provided for the number of children proposed to attend the service

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) On visual assessment, the building appears to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) The indoor areas appear to be safe and secure.
- (c) Adequate lighting was provided throughout the crèche and there was ample natural lighting and mechanical ventilation in all the playrooms.
- (d) The premises and play equipment were clean and well maintained.
- (e) There were adequate and suitable sanitary areas adjacent to the playrooms.
Liquid soap and paper towels were also available.
There were 6 children’s toilets and wash hand basins upstairs to accommodate toilet trained children. There were 3 staff toilet and wash hand basin to accommodate the staff working in the service.
There were 2 nappy changing stations to accommodate at least 22 children in nappies.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

(1) A summary of the overall floor measurement of each of the 4 playrooms .

Room number	Room size	Age profile of children attending
Room 1. (New extension)	39 m ²	14 children aged between 1 to 2 yrs 17 children aged between 2 to 3yrs 21 children attending ECCE
Room 2	21 m ²	7 children aged between 1 to 2 yrs 9 children aged between 2 to 3yrs 12 children attending ECCE
Room 3	39.5m ²	14 children aged between 1 to 2 yrs 17 children aged between 2 to 3yrs 22 children attending ECCE
Room 4	54m ²	Maximum capacity is no more than 20 children in this room.

(2) The minimum space requirement for the different profiles of the children attending.

Full Day Care Service	
Age Range of children Attending	Clear Floor Space
1-2Years	2.8 square metres.
2 -3 Years	2.35 square metres
3-6 Years	2.3 square metres
Sessional Service	
2 to 6 years	1.818 m ²

The service has adequate space to accommodate up the increase from 48 children to 62 children at any one time.

The register provider had applied to increase the number from 48 children to 62 children.