

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015GY222

Name of Service Scoil Croi Iosa Presentation Early Years Service

Address of Service: Presentation Primary School, Newcastle Road, Newcastle,
Galway, H91 FV48.

Email Address: scoilchroiiosa@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Colin Barry

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

Proposed change: Change in type of service from a sessional to a part-time service.
Change in opening hours from 8:50 to 12:20 to 8:40 to 13:00

Proposed Number of Children: 22 (Max 20 Part-Time)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change in type of service from a sessional to a part-time & sessional
Change in opening hours from 8:50 to 12:20 to 8:40 to 13:00

Registered change: Change in type of service from a sessional to a part-time & sessional
Change in opening hours from 8:50 to 12:20 to 8:40 to 13:00

Date of Inspection: 0 5 0 9 2 0 2 5

Inspection undertaken by: S. Meehan.

Title: Early Years Inspector.

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Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, Clinical & Administration Building, Block A – (1 st Floor – Green Corridor), Merlin Park Hospital, Galway
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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 Part-Time & Sessional Service for 22(Max 20 Part-Time) Children
Date of Registration	23rd September 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	The service is in a playroom, which is part of Scoil Croi Iosa primary school, on Newcastle Road, near the centre of Galway city. The service proposes to operate a part-time day care service for pre-school children aged between 2 years and 6 years of age and cater for a maximum number of 22 preschool children. The service proposes to offer an Early Childhood Care and Education sessional care programme from 8:40 am to 12 pm and a part-time service between 8.40 am and 1 pm, Monday to Friday.
Premises	The proposed service is in the primary school in a converted playroom. There are designated sanitary facilities for the preschool children and adults. The pre-school children will have the use of a secured designated outdoor play area directly in front of the service.
Staffing	The service proposes to have a manager in charge and another adult who can deputise. Three adults with an award in Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) at a Level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications, in Early Childhood Care and Education.
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. The Inspection focused on regulations under the

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	<p>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 wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, 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 requirement has been met- there is a designated person in charge, the manager and a deputy manager rostered on the premises.

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:

(1) The registered provider proposes to maintain the minimum ratio of adults to children. The registered provider proposes that there will be a maximum of 22 pre-school children being cared for by 3 staff members in the proposed playroom.

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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.

Requirement met:

- (1)(a) There are adequate and suitable facilities in the proposed playroom, with defined interest areas provided for play. The registered provider intends to develop these interest areas further depending on the child's interests, emerging needs, learning stories and developing themes. On the day the play equipment and materials were inviting and easily accessible in the proposed playroom.
- (b) The service will be catering for children over 2 years of age and stackable beds are available for rest and sleep.
- (3)(a) The service had an outdoor play area to the front of the premises which is a secured area. There is a selection of defined interest areas, with mud kitchens, tunnels, swings and a planting area.

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:

A healthy eating policy is in place and children will bring their own snacks and main meal of the day.

The service has a sample menu plan in place and a drinks station will be accessible to children in the playroom.

There will be a designated fridge for the safe storage of perishable food items provided by parents for the children.

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 main entrance to the pre-school was secured to prevent the public having access to children and ensuring children could not exit the service unsupervised.
- Heavy equipment and furnishings were anchored appropriately.
- Cables were out of reach of children or secured.
- The registered provider had a fridge in the playroom for the storage of perishable items from children’s lunch boxes.
- Hand washing facilities were provided with a supply of warm water, liquid hand soap and disposable paper hand towels. Thermostatically controlled warm water not exceeding 43° C was available, to facilitate hygienic hand washing without risk of scalding.
- There was a cleaning schedule available and a cleaning record.
- The doors into the staff areas and storage areas had a system of security and were thereby inaccessible to the children.
- All cleaning agents and equipment were stored inaccessible and out of children’s reach.
- The registered provider and manager proposed to complete a daily risk assessment.
- A health and safety policy were available which included a risk assessment system.
- The service risk assessment system ensured toys and equipment were checked to ensure that they were not broken, in a clean condition and maintained in a good state of repair.
- The manager advised that the outdoor play equipment would be cleaned after each child’s use and prior to each child’s use - with documented records maintained. A sample documented risk assessment of the outdoor play areas was available for review.
- There were no pits or ponds in the outdoor pre-school area to cause any risk of danger to pre-school children.
- The building employed a company for pest control.

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- The oil heating system was serviced on an annual basis and records were maintained of an annual service.

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—
- 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:

- (1) Three staff working in the pre-school service have a current first aid responder qualification and 7 have first aid training.
- (2)(a) There was a suitably equipped first aid box stored in an easily accessible conspicuous position in the proposed playroom.
- (b) The first aid box was readily available with content items in date.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 26 – Fire Safety Measures

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of—
- any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and
 - 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:

- (1)(a) Arrangements were in place to record monthly fire drills the last fire drill was carried out in June 2025.
- (b) A record of the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment in the service was on file. Records indicated that the firefighting equipment was annual serviced June 2025. Records indicated that the fire detection system was annual serviced on the 17 July 2025.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed.

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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 service's had insurance for a part-time day care service for up to 22 children and included the following –

- public liability insurance.
- insurance against fire and theft.
- buildings insurance.

The insurance was valid until the 31 July 2025.

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:

- (a) The manager of the service confirmed that there were no known structural defects.
- (b) The proposed outdoor play area and pre-school play area were safe and secure.
- (c) The playroom and sanitary areas were well lit and ventilated. The lighting was both natural and artificial. The warm water in the proposed designated sanitary area was maintained at a safe temperature and not greater than 43°C.
- (d) The proposed playrooms had play and work equipment that was clean and in good repair. Cleaning equipment was safely stored away from the pre-school children in designated inaccessible secured storage areas. There was a proposed cleaning schedule available for inspection. From observation, the proposed play area was maintained in a clean and hygienic condition.
- (e) The proposed playroom had children's toilets and two wash hand basins. Liquid soap dispensers and paper hand towels in designated dispensers were within easy access to a pre-school child. Foot pedal lidded bins were provided in the

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sanitary area. Additionally in the service there was a designated adult toilet with a designated wash hand basin.

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 30 – Minimum Space Requirements

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:

(1) and (2) Adequate floor space is provided in the proposed playroom for the free movement of children to work and play.

(3) & (4)(a)(b) The measurement of the proposed playrooms floor space is:

Playroom 1:

46 sq. meters and on a sessional basis 1.818 square metres of clear floor space per child is required. The service can have a maximum of 22 children on a sessional basis in the proposed playroom.

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Minimum Space Requirements

Full Day Care Service or Part-time Day Care Service

(1)	(2)	(3)
	AGE RANGE	CLEAR FLOOR SPACE
1	0 – 1 year	3.5 square metres
2	1-2 years	2.8 square metres
3	2- 3 years	2.35 square metres
4	3- 6 years	2.3 square metres

On part-time basis the service can accommodate:

Children aged 2-6 years of age, based on clear floor space of 46 sq. meters can cater for is 20 children at any given time.