

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015KE006

Name of Service Busy Beavers

Address of Service: Abbeylands, Mill Road, Castledermot Co. Kildare R14XN53

Email Address: sharonellard@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Sharon O' Neill

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

Proposed change: The service proposes to change,
 1. From a sessional service to a part time service.
 2. Hours of operation for the part time service 08:30am-13:30pm.
 3. Increase staff employed from 4 to 5.

Proposed Number of Children: No change to current registration status

Recommended Change Following Inspection: The service meets the requirement to operate a part time service and employ further staff.

Registered change: Change in service type from sessional to part time & sessional
 Change in number of staff from 4 to 5

Date of Inspection: 2 8 1 2 2 0 2 3

Inspection undertaken by: Fiona Maher

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Suite 7, Vista Primary Care Centre
 Ballymore Eustace Road Naas Co. Kildare, W91X38W.

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 Children
Date of Registration 5th January 2024

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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>Busy Beavers currently operates as a sessional service offering two sessions daily from 09:00am-12:00pm and 13:00pm-16:00pm for 38 weeks of the pre-school year. Twenty two children aged 2-6 years are registered to attend each sessional service.</p> <p>The proposed change, as advised by the registered provider, is to offer part time care from 08:30am -13:30pm and increase the staff employed from 4-5. An afternoon sessional only service will operate from 13:30pm-16:30pm.</p>
Premises	<p>The service is located in a purpose built premises with one large pre-school room, sanitary accommodation, kitchen and storage facilities. An outdoor play area is available to the front of the premises.</p>
Staffing	<p>The service currently employs 4 staff including the registered provider.</p> <p>The childcare staff working directly with the pre-school children in the service have a qualification in Early Childhood Care and Education which is recognised on the National Framework of Qualifications.</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.</p>

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	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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, who was 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 has been met.

(1) (a)

There is a designated a person in charge and a named person 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 has been met.

(1)

The registered provider has ensured that there is, at all times, an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school 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—

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(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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

The current pre-school room is a constructively planned environment that is adequately resourced with play and learning equipment including montessori materials to cater for the current number of children attending aged from 2-6 years old. Low-level child sized tables and chairs are provided and the low-level resource units in the room have ample supplies of art and craft materials, equipment for mark making and painting activities, puzzles, books, jigsaws, natural, sensorial and montessori equipment and materials. The outdoor play area is equipped with various wooden structures to provide areas for imaginary play, water and sand play areas; tyres, balance beams and ride on equipment are available for gross motor activities.

(b)

A comfortable rest area with soft furnishings is available for the children to rest, read a book or take a break from activities during the day and low level beds are available for any child who may require a period of sleep while attending on a part time basis.

(3)(a)

The outside play area was safe, suitable and secure, enclosed by a high level metal fence and the high level metal entrance gate was secured with an electromagnetic locking mechanism.

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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 has been met.</p> <p>The service has a healthy eating policy in place.</p> <p>The service proposes to provide breakfast and otherwise all food and snack items will be provided by each child’s parent. Fridges are available to store perishable items.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>The main entrance to the service is via the main entrance gate which is electronically secured and controlled by staff to prevent any pre-school child from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the pre-school room.</p> <p>Storage was available for the safe storage of cleaning products, equipment and staff and children’s belongings. The kitchen and storage room were secured and inaccessible to the children.</p> <p>The fire exits were unobstructed and easily recognisable.</p> <p>The service was observed maintained in a clean and hygienic condition and there were written cleaning schedules for all areas of the service.</p> <p>There is provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste including the provision of foot pedal operated bins in the pre-school rooms, sanitary and nappy changing areas.</p>
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	<p>Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap and paper hand towel, hygienically dispensed from wall mounted dispensers are available for hygienic hand washing and drying.</p> <p>Bed linen is individually stored and will be laundered by the service.</p>
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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
 - (b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

Current certification in relation to first aid response (FAR) was available for staff members currently working in the service.

(2)(a)(b)

A suitably equipped first aid box is available and accessible to children at all times; it is stored in a conspicuous position in the service.

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 firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.

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(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:	<p>The requirement is met.</p> <p>(1)(a) Documentation was available for recording monthly fire drills. The most recent fire drill was conducted 5 December 2023.</p> <p>(b) There was a maintenance record available of the number, type and maintenance of firefighting equipment and the smoke/fire detection system dated May 2023 and 1 December 2023 respectively.</p> <p>(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire was clearly displayed on the premises.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>An insurance quote was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.</p> <p>The registered provider had evidence of insurance cover for 22 children. The insurance cover was valid until 27 November 2024.</p>
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Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

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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)

Visually, the premises is maintained in a good state of repair.

(b)

The main entrance gate to the service has keypad access for staff that is also electromagnetically secure and controlled by staff to prevent any pre-school child from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the pre-school room. A bell is located at the entrance gate to alert staff to any person(s) wishing to gain entry.

A high level metal fence and gate surrounds the perimeter of the outdoor play area to the front.

(c)

There are openable windows to naturally ventilate the pre-school room, sanitary and nappy change accommodation.

Natural daylight is provided by two large windows and half glass doors to the front of the pre-school room and via two velux windows in the main body of the room.

Supplementary artificial fluorescent strip lighting is provided in the pre-school room and sanitary areas. The accommodation is heated by underfloor oil central heating.

(d)

Cleaning schedules are in place in the service and the premises and its environs were clean and well maintained.

(e)

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	<p>Adequate sanitary facilities are provided in the service including nappy changing facilities.</p> <p>Two toilets and one nappy change area with dedicated wash hand basins are available in the service to accommodate the children attending the service. Two further wash hand basins are located in the pre-school room.</p> <p>Adequate staff sanitary accommodation is available on the premises.</p>
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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.*
- (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.*

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>Adequate clear floor space is provided for the work, play and movement of pre-school children attending the service.</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>There is sufficient space in the service to cater for 22 pre-school children proposed to attend on a part time basis in the current pre-school room.</p>
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