

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015KE014

Name of Service Tigers Childcare

Address of Service: The Ryebriidge, Kilcock, Co. Kildare, W23 XK51.

Email Address: info@tigerschildcare.com

Name of Registered Provider: Therese Noonan

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

Proposed change: Change in Number of Children from 126 – 132.
Change in Age Profile from 0-6 years to 1-6 years.

Proposed Number of Children: 132

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Application withdrawn by registered provider 14 Oct

Registered change: Changes Withdrawn as per Registered Provider, Service remains Registered as Full Day & Sessional Service for 126 children

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

Inspection undertaken by: Therese Duignan

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Vista Primary Care Centre, Ballymore Eustace Road,
Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 X38W

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Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	As per Directory of Services remains Registered Full Day & Sessional Service for 126 children
Date of Registration	4 th November 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	Tigers Childcare provides full day and sessional care and education to pre-school children aged 0 to 6 years. School age care is provided also. The service operates from 7.30am – 18.30 hours Monday to Friday.
Premises	The service is based in a purpose-built building located in a housing development on the outskirts of Kilcock. There are eight care rooms, two cot rooms, a kitchen, laundry and an office. The outdoor area is located at the sides, rear and front of the property.
Staffing	The registered provider was not present. The person in charge facilitated the inspection. Twenty-one adults were present on the day of the inspection. All adults employed and working directly with pre-school children had a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or higher on the National Framework of Qualifications.
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 following themes: Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises.

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	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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider ensured that there is a designated 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 is met.

(1) The registered provider shall ensure that there will be at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service including the additional 6 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.*
- (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 or*

Requirement met:

The requirement is met.

(1)

(a) The eight pre-school rooms had suitable play materials and equipment displayed on low level shelving and accessible to the children. A sufficient and appropriate number of child-size tables and chairs to cater for the proposed number of children was available.

(b) Two cot rooms with twenty cots were available for children aged under 2 years requiring sleep.

Twenty-five low beds are available for children over 2 years of age requiring a period of sleep when attending on a full day or part time basis.

The rest areas consisted of child sized seating, soft mats and soft furnishings which were comfortably arranged and presented. They were available in each of the preschool rooms for any child wishing to take a break from activities and to rest.

(3)(a) The outside play area was safe, suitable and secure. It was enclosed by a by high wall surrounding the outdoor area in the service with a secured wooden entrance door on the right-hand side and a secured high level metal gate on the left-hand side.

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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:

The requirement is met.

The service has a healthy eating policy in place.

A four-week menu was available and demonstrated varied and nutritious food freshly prepared.

Children's dinners are sourced from an external catering company and reheated on the premises each day. A cook is employed to prepare breakfast, snacks and tea daily for the children. Children's dietary needs are catered for. Fruit and crackers are available for any children who are hungry between meals. Water is freely available to the children at all times.

The kitchen is registered with the relevant authority.

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.

Access to the eight pre-school rooms is through the main entrance to the service which is electronically secured and is controlled by staff members. The entrance doors in the care rooms are secured by a handle and each room has a stair gate as a secondary measure to prevent children leaving the room unsupervised.

The three doors to the outdoor area along the corridor on the ground floor are closed and secured by thumb turn locks.

Cleaning agents are safely stored out of the reach of children.

There is storage space in the pre-school rooms to store the children's personal belongings safely.

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Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid hand soap, paper hand towels are available in the sanitary areas for hygienic hand washing and drying and foot pedal operated bins for hygienic and safe disposal of used paper towel and tissues are available.

Nappy changing facilities are available.

The fire exits are clearly marked and unobstructed.

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) Ten adults working in the service have current certification in first aid for children (FAR).

(2)(a)(b) Suitably equipped first aid boxes are available and accessible to children in the service.

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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.
- (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)</p> <p>(a) Documentation was available for recording monthly fire drills. The most recent fire drill was conducted on 26 August 2024.</p> <p>(b) There were maintenance records available of the number, type and maintenance of firefighting equipment and the smoke alarm, which were 7 March 2024 and 20 August 2024, 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 is met.</p> <p>An insurance certificate 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 quotation for insurance cover for 132 children. The insurance cover was valid from 28 August 2024 – 27 March 2025.</p>
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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) Visually, the proposed pre-school rooms and premises were in a state of good repair.

(b) The eight pre-school rooms were located in the premises and were secured from unauthorised entry by an electronically secured main door which was controlled by staff members. The keypad code is changed weekly and communicated to the parents by the electronic communication system.

The two entrance doors to the first floor were electronically secured.

All windows were fitted with restrictive opening devices.

(c) There were openable windows in the pre-school rooms providing natural daylight and ventilation.

Recessed square lights were in place to provide additional artificial lighting in the rooms on the ground floor; covered fluorescent ceiling lights were fitted in the rooms on the first floor.

The sanitary areas between Junior Discoverers and Explorers 2 rooms and the first-floor sanitary block were ventilated by an openable window.

Mechanical ventilation systems were present in the internal nappy change area attached to Senior Discoverers room, the sanitary area on the ground floor and the three adult sanitary areas to ensure that the air is circulated in these enclosed spaces.

The environmental temperatures in all areas were maintained between the required 18-22 degrees Celsius.

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	<p>Air conditioning units were present in the two cot rooms, Explorers 2 and Explorers 1 rooms to manage the environmental temperatures for sleep purposes.</p> <p>(d) There is a system in place to manage repairs and maintenance in the service. Daily cleaning schedules were in place for the pre-school rooms and sanitary areas.</p>
<p>Requirement not met:</p>	<p>(e) The service was not equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities as demonstrated by the following:</p> <p>Sanitary area ground floor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One toilet, one wash hand basin and one wall mounted nappy change unit. Another wash hand basin is required for the wall mounted nappy change unit. <p>Sanitary area First floor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven toilets and seven wash hand basins; one nappy change unit and one wash hand basin were available on the first floor. <p>A further three toilets and three wash hand basins were required on the second floor based on the five rooms measured occupancy.</p> <p>The requirement for one nappy changing unit (nappy changing unit = one nappy changing table/mat and one wash hand basin) for every eleven children wearing nappies has not been met. Another nappy change unit and wash hand basin is required on the second floor.</p> <p>Sanitary facilities adults:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The requirement for one toilet and one wash hand basin for every eight adults employed in the service was not met. There were three toilets and three wash hand basins available for the 26 staff members employed in the service. Four toilets and four wash hand basins were required.
<p>Response from proposed provider:</p>	<p>An email was received from Eimear Flynn, Operations Manager on behalf of the registered provider on 14 October 2024 stating that they are not proceeding with the change in circumstances application for Tigers Childcare, The Ryebriidge.</p>
<p>Summary comment:</p>	<p>The requirement has not been met.</p> <p>The written response received confirmed that the change in circumstances application is not being progressed by Tigers Childcare, The Ryebriidge.</p>

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), (2)
 Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of 132 children proposing to attend the service as demonstrated in the table below:

Room	Junior Discoverers	Senior Discoverers	Explorers 2	Explorers 1
Clear floor space	36 m ²	31.7 m ²	32.1 m ²	31.8 m ²
Proposed age range	1-2 years	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-6 years
Maximum number children	13 (FDC)	11 (FDC)	13 (FDC)	13 (FDC) 17 (ECCE)
Room	Active Cubs 1	Active Cubs 2	Sessional / SAC	Active Cubs 3
Clear floor space	41.8 m ²	41.7 m ²	41.8 m ²	29.3 m ²
Proposed age range	3-6 years	3-6 years	3- 6 years	2 – 3 years 3- 6 years
Maximum number children	18 (FDC) 22 (ECCE)	18 (FDC) 22 (ECCE)	18 (FDC) 22 (ECCE)	12 (2-3 years) (FDC) 13 (3-6 years) (FDC) 16 (ECCE)