

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D.:** TU2015KE075

**Name of Service** Kindercrescent

**Address of Service:** 481 The Crescent, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co Kildare, W23 AV88

**Email Address:** info@kindercrescent.ie

**Name of Registered Provider:** Sharon and Yvonne Regan

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

**Proposed change:** The service is proposing to increase the number of children attending from 94 to 114.

**Proposed Number of Children:** 114

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** The proposed change is met.

**Registered change:** Change in number of children from 94 to 114 children

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	2	1	0	8	2	0	2	5
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**Inspection undertaken by:** F Carty

**Title:** Early Years Inspector

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

**Rationale for Inspection:**

**Proposed Change of Circumstance**

The registered provider wishes to increase the numbers of children attending from 94 to 114 children in the service. The children will be accommodated in two additional care rooms.

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional for 114 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> August 2025

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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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	<p>Kindercrescent is an existing full daycare, part time and sessional childcare service currently operating from 7.30am to 6.00pm.</p> <p>The service is located in Maynooth, Co. Kildare. The registered provider is seeking to increase the numbers of children attending the service from 94 to 114 children daily and increase the number of staff by 2 adults.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The premises are located in an adapted premises and includes 13 care rooms, including the proposed new two care rooms. There is suitable sanitary accommodation for children and adults. There is parking for cars located to the side of the building. A number of outdoor play areas are located to the rear and side of the building. The outdoor areas are secure with fencing and walls. The proposed additional children will be accommodated in the AS5 room on a sessional basis and AS4 on a full daycare basis.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The service will be staffed by an additional two adults; the registered providers are on the premises at all times.</p>
<b>Methodology</b>	<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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<p>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.</p>

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### 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 and an adult currently working in the existing service will be able 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.

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

(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to 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)

An adequate number of adults will work directly in the pre-school service at present.

(8)

(b) (c) Not applicable

### 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.

<p><b>Requirement met:</b></p>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) The additional two care rooms AS4 and AS5 will be solely used for pre-school children. The registered provider proposes to provide a full-day service for an additional eight pre-school children in the AS4 room and eleven children on a sessional basis in AS5 as space requirements allow. Both of the care rooms are bright and spacious. Both care rooms are fully equipped with a range of play materials and equipment suitable to the age and stage of the children attending each room. Low level furniture and shelving were available containing materials for creative and imaginative play. These included designated interest areas including a home corner, puzzles and small world play accessible to the children at their level. A rest area with books was available in each care room.</p> <p>(1)(b) Both care rooms had a rest area available. A soft mat and sofas were available for preschool children to rest and opt out of activities as required. Children in the rooms were of an age that they did not require sleep during the day, however if required the service had low level beds available in another care room.</p> <p>(2) An outdoor play area was available to the rear of the building. The area was divided into three areas. An area with impact absorbing surfacing with a climbing frame and slide, an area covered in artificial grass with football nets, large blocks and tyres to play with and a grassed area to the rear. Access was gained directly from AS5 room, and the area was surrounded by perimeter fencing and walls which prevented unauthorised access and egress.</p>
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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 has been met.

The service will provide all food for the children who attend on a full daycare basis. A 5 week rolling menu is in place and the food is cooked onsite daily. Children attending on a sessional basis will bring in food from home. All perishable foods will be stored in a refrigerator. A healthy eating policy was available and contained information on acceptable foods and foods not permitted in the service.

### 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 has been met.

The doors at both the front and back entrance to the service had a lock system in place to secure the service against unauthorised access and to prevent unsupervised exit of pre-school children from the service. Children will be accepted into the service from the front entrance door and will be taken to the playroom by staff members during operational hours of the service. It was also noted that pre-school children will be collected from the front door after sessional hours by parents/guardians. The front door had a magnetic keypad lock in place and could only be opened from the inside. All toys and furniture were in good condition and free from pinch and crush points and sharp edges. The registered provider had sole use of both the building and the outdoor play area for the preschool service. There was built in storage facilities available for storage throughout the service.

Cleaning schedules were in place and the service was in a clean condition throughout.

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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) There was evidence that five people had current certification in First Aid Responder. Evidence was provided to the inspector on the day of inspection.

(2)(a)(b)

A suitably equipped first aid box was provided. There was signage to indicate the location of first aid box. The first aid box was available to the children always attending 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 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 recording system was provided to maintain a record of monthly fire drills as conducted in the service.

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- (b) The maintenance record for firefighting equipment was available they were last serviced on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025. A maintenance record for smoke alarms confirmed that a maintenance service was conducted on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025.
- (4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was posted in the communal hallway. A fire assembly point was located to the front of the property. An additional assembly point was available to the side of the property.

### 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 had insurance cover for a maximum of 114 children in daily attendance. Insurance for the service expires on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

### 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) There was no evidence of dampness or mould growth on internal walls and ceilings. Windows in the care rooms appear to be both water-tight and weather-tight and were both positioned and opened above child height. The registered provider confirmed that there are no structural defects with the premises.

(b) The heavy-duty floor covering throughout the rooms was well fitted and in a good state of repair and maintenance. Both the front and back exits to the building guarded against both unsupervised exit of children and unauthorised access to the building. The building was not used for any other purpose unrelated to childcare during operational hours of the service.

(c) The openable windows in the care rooms which were located above child height ensured both adequate natural day lighting and ventilation in the care rooms. All ceiling light fittings in rooms were covered with shatterproof diffusers. Heating was provided with thermostatically controlled gas central heating system. The temperature recorded in the care rooms was between the recommended 18° Celsius and 22° Celsius.

(d) All walls and ceilings were finished with a washable paint and were smooth surfaced for easy cleaning purposes.

(e) There were an additional two toilets and wash hand basins located in the newly constructed care rooms for the pre-school children in daily attendance and an additional toilet located in the outdoor area for adults. The water supply to wash hand basins was thermostatically controlled. Mechanical ventilation was available in all sanitary facilities.

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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.
- (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.

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) An area of 22.8 sqm was available in AS5 room which provided adequate floor space for the proposed additional 11 pre-school children in daily attendance on a sessional basis. An area of 23.46sqm was available in the AS4 room which allowed for an additional 9 children on a full day care basis.

(2) Not applicable.

(3) The area of the care rooms ensured adequate floor space for the proposed maximum number of pre-school children in daily attendance on a sessional and full day care basis.