

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

**Tusla I.D.:** TU2015KY034

**Name of Service** Cre-8-tive Corner Childcare

**Address of Service:** 1 Lios Rua, Cahermoneen, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92 R9HY

**Email Address:** cre-8-tivecornerchildcare@hotmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Rute O 'Halloran

<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:** Change in the number of children from 11 to 40 (existing rooms).  
Change in number of staff from 9 to 10 staff

**Proposed Number of Children:** 40

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** Change in the number of children from 11 to 40 (existing rooms).  
Change in number of staff from 9 to 10 staff.

**Registered change:** Change in the number of children from 11 to 40 children  
Change in number of staff from 9 to 10 staff.

**Date of Inspection:** 1 8 0 8 2 0 2 5

**Inspection undertaken by:** N. Reidy

**Title:** Early Years inspector

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Áras an Phobail, Deans Lane, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

**Rationale for Inspection:**  
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

**Registration Status:** Registered Full Day Care, Part-Time & Sessional for 40 Children  
**Date of Registration** 28<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>This privately owned early years service currently provides full day care, part-time and sessional care to children aged between 0 and 6 years. The service proposes to cater for 40 children in the 2 existing care rooms namely the creche and the pre-school room. The service operates between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00pm Monday to Friday inclusive. The service provides school aged care.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The premise is a purpose built/adapted service that is located in the urban area of Tralee town.</p> <p>The building consists of a creche, sleep room, sanitary facilities/nappy changing, an office, a kitchen and adult sanitary on the ground floor. There is a pre-school room and sanitary facilities for children and adults located on the first floor.</p> <p>The service has designated secured fully enclosed outdoor play areas.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The service proposes to increase the overall number of staff attached to the service from 9 to 10. The 10 adults, including the registered provider will work directly with the children.</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>

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<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, staff and children in the creche who were present on the day of the inspection.
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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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	The requirement has been met.  (1)(a) The registered provider is the named person in charge and there is a named deputy
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### 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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	(1) The requirement has been met. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The registered provider confirmed that an adequate number of staff including herself will work directly with the children each day. The names of the said adults were furnished to the inspector.</li> </ul>
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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.*
- (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.*
- (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*
  - (b) *where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service*
- (4) *Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.*
- (5) *Where pre-school children attending a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre have access to an outdoor space other than such a space specified in paragraph 4, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) The children will have access to a variety of age-appropriate equipment and play materials that are available and accessible to the children on the floor and on open low level shelving units in both care rooms.</p> <p>There is an adequate number of child sized tables and chairs in the care rooms.</p> <p>They have access to a fully enclosed outdoor play area located directly beside the creche and directly accessible from the creche. The proposed children attending the pre-school room will have access to an enclosed outdoor area located to the side of the building.</p>
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(b)

- The service has suitable sleep/rest facilities available for the children aged between 0 and 6 years who require to sleep/rest while attending the service.
- There are currently 4 standard cots with safety mattresses in a designated sleep room located in the creche.
- There are currently 5 stacking beds and single thick matting available in the service.
- Appropriate linen individual to each child is provided for the cots, the beds and the matting.
- The registered provider informed the inspector she has plans to purchase additional single mats.
- Both care rooms have rest areas that comprise of soft seating, soft matting and cushions.

(2)(b) & (3)(a)

- There are outdoor facilities provided.
- The outdoor play areas are adequately enclosed and secured with walls, fencing and gates.
- There is a fully enclosed area for use in all weathers with artificial grass underfoot in the area directly accessible from the creche.
- This structure has an easily openable gate directly linking to the rest of the outdoor area with the concrete surface.
- The proposed outdoor area allocated for the proposed children in the pre-school room is located at the side of the building. The area had artificial grass underfoot.
- There was a variety of toys to play with outside, for example sand and water tables, small vehicles, ride on toys, chalk boards with chalks and a playhouse.

(3)(b) Not applicable as the proposed children have access to an outdoor play area on the premise.

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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 parents of the children attending the service will provide all the food and drinks for mealtimes.
- The registered provider had food such as cereal, bread, a selection of dried foods for example for children who may not have enough food or forget to bring food.
- There was a supply of crockery and cutlery available for the children.
- The service had a supply of potable drinking water in the care rooms and in the kitchen.
- The children's drinks bottles will be accessible in the care rooms.
- A fridge freezer in place in the kitchen and there is a fridge in the pre-school room.
- There were 2 microwaves in place in the kitchen for the heating of meals.

### 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 internal doors were appropriately secured to prevent children accessing unsafe areas. Keypad entry systems were in place.
- Any visitor to the centre used the buzzer system used for authorised entry.
- The external doors were appropriately secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised access.
- The emergency exits were unobstructed.
- The cleaning agents observed on inspection were stored in high level cupboards and high-level racks out of the children's reach.
- The blind cords observed were secured.
- The fire assembly point was clearly identifiable on the wall in front of the service.
- A supply of thermostatically controlled warm water was provided at all the wash hand basins.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a supply of liquid hand soap, disposable paper hand towels and pedal lidded bins for hygienic hand washing and hand drying by the adults and the children.</li> <li>• The registered provider has a safety checklist in place that includes the windows in the upstairs care room.</li> </ul>
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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) 4 adults employed in the service have up to date certification in First Aid Responder (FAR) training. The registered provider provided the inspector with the said certifications.

(2)

(a) The first aid boxes in the creche and the pre-school rooms were stored on high level shelving.

(b) The first aid boxes were adequately stocked and readily accessible to the adults.

### 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) The service has a template available to document the monthly fire drills. The most recently recorded fire drill took place on 15.8.'25.

(b) There is a record of the number, type and maintenance records of the firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms in the premises. The last recorded maintenance of firefighting equipment was March 2025 and for the smoke alarms was 18.6.'25.



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(4) A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the service.

### 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.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to the 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.

### 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 partially met.

(a)

- From a visual assessment, the premises appeared to be sound and stable.

(b)

- The premise was safe and secure on the day of the inspection.

(c)

- The lighting in the care rooms, sleep room, sanitary facilities, entrance area and the stairway to the first floor is supplied by a combination of natural lighting and artificial lights fitted with protective covers.
- The heating system is an air to water system.
- The inspector was furnished with the maintenance check in respect of the system dated 6/08/'25.
- There are high level wall mounted heating/cooling units in the care rooms, the sleep room and in some of the sanitary accommodation.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From observation on the day of the inspection the play equipment and furniture appeared to be clean and in a good condition.</li> <li>• The cleaning schedules were available that included the equipment and materials, care rooms and sanitary facilities.</li> </ul> <p>(e)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sanitary accommodation consisted of 2 children’s toilets, a nappy changing unit and 2 wash hand basins in the creche and 1 adult toilet and wash hand basin downstairs.</li> <li>• In attendance on the day of the inspection there were 11 toilet trained children and 6 children requiring nappy changing.</li> <li>• Going forward, the registered provider is aware of the requirement for sanitary facilities for the number of children toilet trained and for the number of children in nappies.</li> <li>• There are 2 children’s toilets,1 adult toilet and 3 wash hand basins in the pre-school room. The warm water at each of the wash hand basins checked did not exceed the required 43 degrees Celsius.</li> </ul>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	(c) There were 6 of the 10 enclosed lights not in working order in the pre-school room.
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	New light fittings were installed in the room on 23.08.'25 and photographs of the lights switched on were provided.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	The requirement has been met.

### 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.*
- (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).*
- (5) *A registered provider of a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a minimum of 2 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*

#### Requirement met:

- (1) Adequate floor space is available in the proposed care rooms for the work, play and movement of the children in the service.
- (2) The registered provider informed the inspector that she proposes to cater for 20 children in the creche, of which no more than 3 children will be between the age of 0-1 years old. The registered provider proposes to cater for 20 children in the pre-school room. The minimum clear floor space is adhered to for the proposed number of pre-school children.
- (3) & (4) The space requirement for the proposed number of children attending on a sessional EECE scheme basis in the pre-school room is met. The registered provider informed the inspector that she proposes to run 2 sessional ECCE classes in the pre-school, 1 between 9 am – 12 mid-day and 1 between 1 pm -4 pm.