

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

**Tusla I.D.:** TU2015KY048

**Name of Service** Fossa Community Pre-school

**Address of Service:** Fossa, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

**Email Address:** Fossapreschool@gmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Bernie Osterloh

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

**Proposed change:** Addition of Part-time service  
Change in hours of operation to 08:50- 1:50pm

**Proposed Number of Children:** 18 sessional

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** Addition of part-time service and change in hours of operation to 8:50-1:50pm.

**Registered change:** Additional Service Type from Sessional to Part-Time & Sessional  
Change in Hours from 08:50 – 11:50 to 08:50 – 13:50

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	3	0	1	0	2	0	2	4
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**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**

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Part-Time & Sessional service for 18 children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> November 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	<p>Fossa Community Pre-school is a registered community based early years sessional service. The service offers 1 session operating between the hours of 8:50am and 11:50 am Monday to Friday for children aged between the age of 2 years and 6 years. Currently the service provide care for children aged between 2 years 8 months and 5 years. The service proposes to provide part-time care proposing to operate between the hour of 8:50 am and 1:50 pm Monday to Friday.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The service operates from a single room in the community centre, the children have access to designated enclosed outdoor play area located in front of the premise, a spacious indoor hall and a community playground located to the rear of the building.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>Currently there are 3 adults employed in the service, of whom 2 work each day caring for the children. The person in charge who facilitated the inspection informed the inspector the service has advertised for staff to work directly with the children. The registered provider does not work in the service 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 person in charge who was 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 service will have a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputize.
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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>	The requirement has been met. (1) The person in charge who facilitated the inspection confirmed that 2 adults are employed to work in the service, they will be working for the duration of the proposed part-time hours.
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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

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(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.

### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) There are a number of low shelving units placed between the various well-resourced interest areas in the playroom. A variety of suitable play materials and equipment for children was provided that was suitable for the age and stage of development.

(b) There is a soft seating, matting, a bean bag and 2 foldable matts with associated linen for children to rest, relax and opt out of an activity as needed.

- For outdoor play it is proposed that the children will have access to the designated area located at the front of the building, to the spacious indoor hall at alternate times to the children from the national school and to an enclosed playground located to the rear of the building.
- Each of the outdoor play areas provide an alternative change of environment for the children attending the service.
- The area located at the front of the building has a concrete surface with a partial overhead Perspex canopy and the playground located to the rear of the building has a soft matting surface underfoot with a selection of fixed equipment.
- The person in charge informed the inspector the gate located in the outdoor play area located at the front of the building will be kept secured for the duration of the hours of operation, the gates located in the community playground will be kept secured whilst the children are playing there and whilst the children are playing in the indoor hall where the fire exit doors with the low level openable handles open out to the said area.

(3)(a) &(b)The children will have access to outdoor play located on site.

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(4) + (5) Not applicable as the children have access to an on-site outdoor play 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:

The requirement has been met.

- The parents/guardians will provide all the food and drink for the children while attending the service.
- The inspector was advised that there was potable drinking water available in the playroom. The children's re-fillable drinks bottles will be accessible to them during the session in the playroom.
- A fridge is in place in the kitchenette adjacent to the hall used to store children's perishable items.
- The proposed children attending the service on a part-time basis will be offered 2 meals during the session.
- The person in charge advised that a stock of crackers will be provided by the service should children require additional food to that provided by the parents/guardians.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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 partially met.

- The entrance door to the building and the playroom door were secured.
- All toys and play equipment in the proposed playroom appeared to be safe and in good condition.
- The cleaning equipment and materials were be stored in a secured cupboard and on high shelves.
- There was no evidence of any cables in the proposed playroom.
- The first aid box is stored in an area out of children’s reach on a high shelf in the playroom.
- The alarmed fire exit door located in the playroom was unobstructed, the alarm was in working order.
- The cleaning template schedules were available for inspection and demonstrated the service has daily specific cleaning records.
- The person in charge furnished the inspector with certification for checks conducted on the morning of the inspection in respect of the 3 storage heaters on the premise.

#### Requirement not met:

1. There were 2 doors at either side that led to steps up to the stage in the indoor hall that were not secured posing a risk of injury to children.
2. There was a double door unsecured that led to the kitchenette, meeting room, adult sanitary accommodation and the main entrance doors to the building that were not secured on the day of the inspection posing a risk of injury to children.

#### Response from Provider

1. A lock has been put on each door out of the reach of the children.
2. A foldable gymnastic mat will be placed across the doors when the children use the hall.

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<b>Summary Comment</b>	Photographs to demonstrate the response from the provider were received. The response is satisfactory, the requirement has been met. The above will be reviewed at the next inspection.
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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The certifications were furnished to the inspector to evidence that the 2 staff members working with the children had completed First Aid Responder (FAR) training.</p> <p>(2)(a) There was a suitably equipped first aid box provided; it was stored on a high-level shelf in the playroom out of the reach of the children.</p> <p>(b) The suitably equipped first aid box was available in the service.</p>
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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) There is a template on file to record monthly fire drills.</p> <p>(b) A record of the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the wired smoke alarm was available on file. It was recorded that firefighting equipment was last serviced on the 24.10.'24 and the smoke alarms system was last serviced on the 19.01.'24.</p> <p>(4) The service has a designated identifiable assembly point in the event of a fire. A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the service</p>
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### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

*A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to the inspection.</p> <p>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>
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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:

The requirement has been met.

(a) From a visual inspection the building appears to be of sound and stable structure.

(b) The entrance door to the building and the playroom door were secured.

(c) There are 3 openable windows in the playroom and the 1 window in each of the children’s toilets. There are 3 electric storage heaters in place, 2 in the playroom and 1 in the entrance reception area. There is a pull cord electric heater fixed at a high level on the wall in the children’s sanitary accommodation.

There are an adequate number of ceiling lights fitted with protected covers in the service, 3 in the playroom and 3 in the children’s sanitary accommodation and 1 in the entrance reception area.

The playroom air temperature was recorded at 19°C, the children’s sanitary accommodation air temperature was 19.3 °C.

(d) Cleaning schedules were available, and all the play materials were observed to be in good condition.

(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities for both the children and the adults were provided.

There are 2 toilets, and 1 wash hand basin allocated for use by the proposed number of pre-school children in the sanitary accommodation with use of a sink in the playroom.

There is 1 toilet facility for use by the adults in the service located within the building.

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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.*
- (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:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) Adequate clear floor space was provided in the proposed care room for the children to work, play and move.
- (2) The available floor space meets the minimum floor space requirement for children who will be attend the playroom.
- (4) It is proposed by the registered provider that the service will contemporaneously provide both a sessional and part-time service. Adequate floor space is available for the proposed children to attend on a sessional basis and on a part-time basis.