

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015KY055

Name of Service Cromane Community Childcare Centre

Address of Service: Cromane Upper, Cromane, Killorglin, Co. Kerry.

Email Address: office@iascog.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Aoife Benton

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

Proposed change:

- Change in the number of children that can be accommodated from 47 to 64.
- Change in the number of staff employed from 7 to 14.

Proposed Number of Children: 64 children

Recommended Change Following Inspection:

- Change in the number of children that can be accommodated from 47 to 64.
- Change in the number of staff employed from 7 to 14 staff.

Registered change: Change in Number of Children from 47 to 64 children
Change in number of Staff from 7 to 14 staff

Date of Inspection:	2	5	1	1	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.

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 64 children
Date of Registration	17 th December 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	Cromane Community Childcare Centre & Creche is a community-based service that is registered to provide full day care, part-time and sessional care, catering for children between the age of 1 to 6 years. The service operates between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm Monday to Friday inclusive, incorporating the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme between the hours of 9:00 am and 12 mid-day.
Premises	The premise is a single storey purpose-built building with 2 care rooms namely the sunshine rainbow room and the sunshine room. There is a designated fully enclosed outdoor play area located to the rear of the premise. The proposed increase in the number of children are proposed to be accommodated in the modular cabin located at the side of the main building.
Staffing	There are a total of 12 adults employed in the service who can work directly with the children.
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. 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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Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the co-operation of the person in charge, staff and children 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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The service has a designated person in charge and there is a named person who is able to deputize 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 person in charge who facilitated the inspection confirmed that 12 adults are currently employed in the service who work directly with the children of whom 2 will work with proposed children in the proposed modular cabin.

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

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(b) where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is low shelving units provided in the playroom that are easily accessible to the children. • A variety of play materials and equipment was in place on the shelves, in boxes and on the floor. The person in charge informed the inspector that additional play materials and equipment are available in storage with some also on order for example dress-up costumes. <p>(b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a designated rest/relaxation area equipped with a large couch and soft matting on the floor. <p>(3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For outdoor play it is proposed that the children will have access to 1 designated fully enclosed area located at the side of the main building. The area has a variety of play materials and equipment for use on the grass surface and for the sheltered area with the overhead shelter.
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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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parents/guardians will provide all the food and drink for the children while attending the service. • The person in charge confirmed that there was potable drinking water available in the proposed playroom. • There was a sink with warm and cold water, secured drawers and cupboard, countertop, a fridge and a microwave provided in the proposed playroom.
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- The person in charge advised that a stock of crackers and fruit for example will be provided by the service should children require additional food to that provided by the parents/guardians.

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.

- All toys and play equipment in the proposed playroom appeared to be safe and in good condition.
- The cleaning products in place were observed to be stored in a secured cupboard and on a high-level hook over the playroom sink. The person in charge identified an area in the proposed playroom for a built-in cupboard with sections for storage of cleaning equipment and staff belongings for example.
- There was no evidence of any trailing cables in the proposed playroom.
- The first aid box is stored in an area out of children’s reach in the secured cupboard in the proposed playroom.
- The fire exit door located in the playroom was unobstructed.
- The cleaning template schedules were available for inspection and demonstrated the daily specific cleaning records.
- There was a high-level wall mounted cabinet with a key allocated to store medication.
- The blind cords on each of the playroom windows were secured.
- The service had a designated identifiable assembly point in the event of a fire

Requirement not met:

- The main door to the building was not secure to prevent children exiting unsupervised to an unsecured gate leading to the carpark and roadway.
- A section of newly constructed low level timber fencing located between the outdoor play area and the proposed modular cabin had vertical bars posing a risk

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	<p>of children climbing over to the unsecured gate leading to the carpark and the roadway.</p> <p>3. The fire exit door on the playroom had a low-level push bar to open the door. The door opened out to the footpath and to the unsecured gate to the car park and roadway.</p>
Response from Provider:	<p>1. A maglock system has been fitted to the internal door of the playroom to prevent children exiting unsupervised.</p> <p>2. The vertical bars on the fencing outside the building have been fenced in and secured to prevent children climbing.</p> <p>3. The fire door has been fitted with an alarm to alert staff of children opening the door.</p>
Summary Comment:	<p>Photographic evidence was provided in addition to the response received. The requirement has been met.</p>

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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The certifications were furnished to the inspector to evidence that the staff members working with the children had completed First Aid Responder (FAR) training.</p> <p>(2)(a) There was a suitably equipped first aid bag provided; it was stored in the secured cupboard under the sink in the playroom.</p> <p>(b) The suitably equipped first aid bag was available in the service.</p>
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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 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 for recording monthly fire drills.

(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 commissioned on 18.06.'24 and the smoke alarm system on the 11.07.'24.

(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 inspection the building appears to be of sound and stable structure.

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	<p>(c) There are 6 openable windows in the playroom and the 1 window in each of the children's toilets. The heating in the playroom is provided via electric wall mounted heaters.</p> <p>There are an adequate number of ceiling lights fitted with protected covers in the service.</p> <p>The playroom air temperature was recorded at 18.2°C.</p> <p>(d) Cleaning schedule templates are available, and all the play materials were observed to be in good condition.</p> <p>(e) There are 2 toilets, and 2 wash hand basins allocated for use by the proposed number of pre-school children in the sanitary accommodation. There are 2 toilet facilities for use by the adults located within the building</p>
Requirement not met:	<p>(b) The main entrance door in the proposed modular cabin was swaying loosely when opened.</p> <p>(c) The air temperature in the children's sanitary accommodation was recorded at 15.3°C, there was no means of heating provided. allocated for the children.</p> <p>(d) The paint work was flaking off on an area of the ceiling in the proposed playroom.</p>
Response from Provider:	<p>(b) A slow-release mechanism device has been fitted to the entrance door to prevent it from swaying.</p> <p>(c) A high-level heater has been installed on the wall in the sanitary accommodation.</p> <p>(d) The paintwork on the ceiling has been fixed and re-painted.</p>
Summary Comment:	<p>The response from the registered provider included photographic evidence for each of the requirements.</p> <p>The requirement has been met.</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.
- (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:

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.