

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015KY056

Name of Service Ionad Curam Leanaí na Dromoda

Address of Service: Cillín Liath, Máistir Gaoithe, Cathair Saidhbinín, Co. Kerry

Email Address: naionranadromoda@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Cait Ui Chonaill , Sarah Uí Shuilleabhaín

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

Proposed change: Change in the number of children to be accommodated from 35 to 40

Proposed Number of Children: 40

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Approve change fully

Registered change: Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 35 to 40

Date of Inspection:	2	2	0	5	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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 40 Children
Date of Registration	13 th June 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	Ionad Curam Lenaí na Dromoda is a purpose-built community based early years service that is registered to provide full day care to children between 0 and 6 years. The service is registered to cater for 35 children.
Premises	The service operates from a purpose-built single-story premise. There are two playrooms, namely the creche and the arts and crafts room. The creche is the only room currently in operation in the service at the present time due to staff shortages. The children have access to two enclosed outdoor play areas located to the rear and the side of the registered building at alternate times to the children who attend another sessional service within the building. The proposed increase in the number of children will be attending the proposed playroom within the Aonad a hAon building located adjacent to the registered.
Staffing	There are currently six adults employed in the service of which one is the registered provider.
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>
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of one of the registered providers who was present on the day of the inspection. There were no children present during the source 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 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 has been met.

(1) The designated person in charge confirmed that 6 adults are employed to work in the service. The registered provider informed the inspector that the proposed children will attend the proposed playroom between the hours of 12:30 pm and 5:30 pm. There are three named adults proposed to be working with the 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.

(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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Requirement met:	<p>(1) The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(a) Having regard to the number of attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there were adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a variety of toys and play materials in place in the proposed room. The toys were stored on low level open shelving units enabling the children to independently access them. Additional play materials and toys were stored in a designated storage space in the proposed room which the registered provider advised will be rotated throughout the year. • The proposed children will have access to two designated enclosed outdoor play areas at alternate times to children who are attending a separate early years' service in the registered building. One outdoor area consists of soft matting under foot with playhouses, rocking horses and sand tables enclosed by walls and gates. The second area consists of a surface with small stones, a concrete riding track, concrete hopscotch sections and a small area of grass. There is a fixed timer activity unit, a timber bus, a number of picnic tables, covered sand boxes, and a mud kitchen for example available in the area. <p>(b) There was a designated rest area in the proposed playroom that consisted of a large couch and a rug on the floor. The registered provider advised that cushions will be provided in the said area. There were three stackable beds and linen on the premise.</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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service has a healthy eating policy. • The parents/guardians of the proposed children attending the service will provide the food. There is a kitchen adjacent to the proposed playroom
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	<p>equipped with a microwave, a fridge, a sink with hot and cold water, counter-top and cupboards. The registered provider advised that a stock of bread, crackers and fruit will be provided by the service should children require additional food to that provided by the parents/guardians.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water will be freely available, the registered provider confirmed that drinking water is available at the sink in the kitchen. The children’s individual re-fillable drink’s bottles will be stored on a low-level shelving unit in the playroom for the children to independently access them.
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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:	<p>The requirement has been partially met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cleaning agents were stored out of the reach of the children on high shelving and in the secured kitchen. • Secure child safety gates were in place to render the kitchen and the storeroom inaccessible to the children. • The fire doors in the playroom, of which one is the entrance/exit door to the playroom and the fire door in the kitchen were alarmed, these were in working order on the day of the inspection. • The cables observed were secured. • Medication will be stored in a high-level cupboard in the kitchen.
Requirement not met:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The emergency exit doors located opposite the entrance door/fire exit door in the playroom were obstructed with a heavy timber seating unit. 2. There was a storage area located under the enclosed stairs in the playroom. There was no means of lighting, there were a number of boxes of toys stacked up on top of each other and a curtain in place at the entry point. The area was out of sight of the adults posing a risk of injury to children should they gain unsupervised access in. 3. There were no visibility strips on the low-level windows and on the low-level glazed panels of the fire exit doors. 4. There was a timber post on the fixed timber play unit with loose splinters posing a risk of injury to the children. 5. A timber post on the front of the timber bus was not secure posing a risk of injury to children.

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Response from Provider:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The heavy timber seating was moved to another area beside the other seating. 2. The storage area was emptied out and the toys are stored in an alternative area. The space used to store the rest beds and the sealed boxes of linen for the beds. Two lockable doors have been put in place to prevent the children from going in there. 3. The rainbow effect visibility strips are in place on the doors and windows. 4. The timber post on the play unit has been replaced. 5. More screws were fitted on the timber bus to hold and fix it in place.
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.

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 inspectors to evidence that the proposed staff members to work 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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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) The registered provider furnished the inspector with a template document to record the monthly fire drills which will take place in the service.</p> <p>(b) The number, type and maintenance records of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms was maintained. The maintenance records for the fire extinguishers was 12.03.'24 and for the smoke alarms was 16.02.'24.</p> <p>(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the proposed playroom.</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 has been met.</p> <p>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.</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:	<p>The requirement has been partially met.</p> <p>(a) Visually the proposed premise appeared to be of sound and stable structure.</p> <p>(b) The proposed premise was safe and secure.</p> <p>(c)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lighting in the playroom was provided artificially via four enclosed ceiling lights and supplemented by natural lighting via the glazed panels on the fire exit doors and windows. There was a window in each of the sanitary rooms. • The playroom and sanitary rooms were ventilated by means of the openable windows. • The temperature of the playroom and sanitary accommodation was recorded between the 18 and 19 .1 degrees Celsius. • The radiators were thermostatically controlled, the radiators in the proposed playroom had fixed guards in place. <p>(d) A cleaning schedule template was on file for the proposed room.</p> <p>(e) There were 2 toilets and 2 wash hand basins allocated for the children’s use. There was 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin available for the adults located in the registered building. A supply of soap, disposable paper hand towels and pedal operated lidded bins were provided at each of the sinks.</p>
Requirement not met:	<p>1. There was a sizeable area of the fabric on the large couch in the rest area torn.</p>
Response from Provider:	<p>1. A grey washable couch cover was purchased to cover all the seats in question. This cover will be washed every week and as need in between.</p>
Summary Comment:	<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.*
- (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.
- (2) The available floor space meets the minimum floor space requirement for children who will be attend the proposed playroom. The proposed care room was measured at a total of 54.57 m².
- (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.