

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015KY103

Name of Service Oakview Village Childcare

Address of Service: Orchard Way, Oakview Village, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

Email Address: tim@oakviewhouse.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Timothy Crean

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 Number of Children: From 125 to 137(Additional Room)
Change in Number of Staff: From 19 to 35

Proposed Number of Children: 137

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change in the number of children from 125 to 137 (Additional room)
Change in Number of staff from 19 to 35.

Registered change: Change in the number of children from 125 to 137
Change in Number of staff from 19 to 35.

Date of Inspection: 1 3 0 1 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 for 137 Children
Date of Registration	11th March 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).

Description of Service	Oakview Village Childcare is a privately owned early years service that provides full day care, part-time and sessional care, catering for children between the age of 0 to 6 years. The service operates between the hours of 07:30 am and 6:30 pm Monday to Friday inclusive, incorporating the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme. The service provides school aged care.
Premises	The proposed premise is a single storey cabin, namely cabin 1, consisting of 1 playroom, 1 sleep room and sanitary facilities. purpose-built facility, there are six playrooms allocated to early years children. There is a designated enclosed outdoor play area allocated to the rear of the proposed cabin that is proposed to be available and accessible to the proposed children each day.
Staffing	Currently, there are 32 adults employed by the service who can work directly with the children. The registered provider is not service based.
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 cooperation of the persons in charge and a staff member allocated to work in the proposed cabin 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 deputise as required.
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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.

Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1) The person in charge confirmed that 2 named adults are employed to work in the proposed cabin.
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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.

Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1)(a) There are a number of low shelving units provided in the playroom, some of which have pull out containers, all of which are easily accessible to the children. A selection of play materials and equipment are stored on the shelves, on the floor, on designated racks and rails.
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(b) There is a designated sleep room that the person in charge stated will have a retractable child gate put in place prior to the proposed children attending. The inspector was informed that floor beds, cots and low-level stackable beds will be provided for the children attending suitable for the age and stage of development of the child.

The person in charge was informed that a referral to the Fire Safety Officer will be sent to seek advice on fire safety in respect of the sleep room installed in the cabin. There is a designated rest area in the proposed playroom located near the wall mounted book rack consisting of a low-level vinyl couch and a large rug on the floor. The inspector was informed that in addition to the facilities provided that the rest area will be furnished with cushions.

(3) For outdoor play it is proposed that the children will have access to a designated fully enclosed area located at the rear of the cabin, the area is accessible directly from the playroom via the fire exit door.

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

(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 service will offer children a main meal of the day that is supplied by an outside catering company, and some of the children’s snacks throughout the day.
- There is potable drinking water available in the playroom. The inspector was informed that the proposed children’s individual drinks bottles will be stored in the playroom in an area accessible to the children during the session.
- Within the playroom there is 2 sinks with hot and cold water, countertop and cupboards, a microwave and a fridge to store children’s perishable food items.

Part VI – Safety

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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 entrance door to the building and the playroom door were secured with a turn lock on the entrance door and a high-level number pad system in place.
- The proposed outdoor play area was fully enclosed and secure with walls, hedging and gates.
- All toys and play equipment in the proposed playroom appeared to be safe and in good condition.
- The cleaning equipment and materials will be stored in a secured cupboard.
- There was no evidence of any cables in the proposed playroom and sleep room.
- The first aid box is stored in an area out of children's reach on a high shelf in the playroom.
- The fire exit door located in the proposed cabin has a low level push bar handle that opened freely to the proposed outdoor play area. The fire door was unobstructed.
- The service has a designated identifiable assembly point in the event of a fire.
- The blind cords on each of the 4 playroom windows were secured to the walls

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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) The certification for 1 staff member proposed to work with the children was to evidence that the staff member had completed First Aid Responder (FAR) training. The inspector was informed the 2nd staff member proposed to work with the children is enrolled to complete FAR training in February 2025.
- (2)(a) There is a suitably equipped first aid box provided; it is stored on a high-level shelf in the playroom out of the reach of the children.
- (b) The suitably equipped first aid box is available in 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) The service demonstrated an electronic record for recording the monthly fire drills that will be conducted.
- (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 November 2024 and the smoke alarm system was last serviced on the 27.11.'24.
- (4) A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the service

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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:

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 cabin appears to be of sound and stable structure.

(b) The premise was safe and secure on the day of the inspection.

(c) Natural lighting was provided via openable windows in the pre-school room and this was supplemented with 4 artificial enclosed light fittings. Natural lighting was provided by means of a window in 2 of the 3 bathrooms supplemented with artificial enclosed light fittings in each of the said areas. Artificial lighting was provided in the sleep room.

The temperature of the playroom was recorded at 18.4 degrees Celsius. The heating source in the sleep room is via a wall mounted electric heater/air conditioning unit with a timer and in the playroom via 3 wall mounted electric heaters with a timer and an electric wall mounted air conditioning and heating unit with a timer.

The playroom and 2 bathrooms are ventilated by means of natural ventilation from the open-able windows and mechanical ventilation in 1 bathroom.

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	<p>(d) From observation on the day of the inspection the premise, play equipment and furniture appeared to be clean and in a good condition.</p> <p>(e) There are 2 toilets and 2 wash hand basins allocated for children's use and 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin available for the adult's use in the disabled bathroom. There is a wall mounted foldable nappy changing unit located in the lobby of the accommodation. The inspector was informed that high level shelving will be erected in the area to store the children's individual toiletries.</p>
Requirement not met:	<p>(c)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no means of heating in the sanitary accommodation. The air temperature was recorded at 16.2 degrees Celsius. 2. There was no means of ventilation provided in the allocated sleep room.
Response from Provider:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A storage heater was added to the sanitary accommodation. Photographs of the electric wall mounted heater in place in the lobby area of the sanitary accommodation and a record of the air temperature reading, 18.6 degrees Celsius was submitted. 2. An internal/external vent with an open/close device was added to the sleep room.
Summary Comment:	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.*

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Requirement met:	<p>(1) Adequate floor space is available in the proposed playroom for the work, play and movement of the children in the service.</p> <p>(2) The registered provider ensured that the minimum clear floor space is adhered to for pre-school children.</p> <p>(3) & (4) The space requirement for children attending on a sessional EECE scheme basis is met. The inspector was informed on inspection that the service proposes to cater for 12 pre-school children on a sessional basis and full day care basis for which the clear floor space required is provided in the cabin.</p> <p>(5) Not applicable as this is not a temporary service.</p>
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