

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.:	TU2015LH010							
Name of Service	Ainedanbury Ltd T/A Bright Beginnings							
Address of Service:	257 Lower Point Rd, Dundalk, Co Louth A91 RW20							
Email Address:	Irene@brightbeginningsdundalk.ie							
Name of Registered Provider:	Ireneaus McCaffrey							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	✓	Part-Time	✓	Sessional	✓		
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary			
Proposed change:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the number of children being accommodated in the service from 59 up to 67 children in total. To change the Bluebell Toddler Room into a preschool room and a room for school aged children. To increase the number of staff from 8 to 13 							
Proposed Number of Children:	67							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase numbers to 67 children. (A total of 60 children can be accommodated, if all children are attending on a full day care/ part-time basis). This is based on the calculations of clear floor space available as outlined in Regulation 30. To change the Bluebell Toddler Room into a pre-school room and a room for school aged children. 							
Registered change:	Change in number of children from 59 to 67(Max 60 Full Day/Part-Time) children Change in number of staff from 8 to 13							
Date of Inspection:	2	2	0	8	2	0	2	4
Inspection undertaken by:	S. Taaffe							
Title:	Early years inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, 181-189 Lakeshore Drive, Airside Business Park, Swords, Co. Dublin K67 Y5C6.							

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Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Full Day Care, Part-time and Sessional service for 67 (60 Full Day/Part-Time) children
Date of Registration	27th August 2024

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	Ainedanbury Ltd T/A Bright Beginnings is a privately owned full day care service which has been in operation in this setting since 2004 and which was acquired by the registered provider in October 2023. This full day care service operates from 8.00am to 6.00pm daily and accommodates children from 2 – 6 years of age and school aged children up to 12 years of age. The service operates for 48 weeks each year, closing for a week after Christmas, a week after Easter and the first 2 weeks in August.
Premises	The service operates from a two-storey building which adjoins the registered provider's family home and a separate prefabricated unit to the rear of the premises. The main premises comprises of 4 care rooms, namely the Lavender Room and the Bluebell Room which are located on the ground floor while the Sunflower Room and the Daisy Room are located on the first floor. A fifth room, the Poppy Room, is conducted in the separate detached prefabricated building to the rear of the premises. Ancillary accommodation consists of sanitary facilities, a kitchen, a sensory room off the Lavender Room, a staff room, office and storage areas. A spacious outdoor play area is located to the rear of the premises.
Staffing	The registered provider and 14 of the 15 staff members employed in the service work directly with the pre-school children while 1 staff member engages in administrative duties. In addition to working directly with the pre-school children one staff member is a qualified chef and cooks dinner for the children on a daily basis.
Methodology	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.

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	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.
Acknowledgements	The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, the deputy person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment	
<i>(1) A registered provider shall ensure that—</i> <i>(a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.</i>	
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met. (1)(a) The registered provider is the designated person in charge and the deputy manager deputises in her absence as required.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels	
<i>(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.</i> <i>(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—</i> <i>(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1) The registered provider is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 1 of Schedule 6 and would ensure that an adequate number of adults is at all times working directly with the proposed increased number of children in the service. (8)(a) The registered provider ensures that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times when the service is in operation.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service	
Regulation 20 - Facilities for Rest and Play	
<i>(1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that—</i>	

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- (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.
- (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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The five care rooms are resourced with a suitable range of play materials and equipment laid out in defined interest areas to facilitate children to engage in play throughout the day. Play materials are stored in open-fronted low-level shelving units to facilitate the children to choose and access the items independently. The interest areas include home corners, construction areas, arts and crafts area and libraries. The outdoor play area contains a range of play equipment including ride-on toys, climbing frames, a large, lidded sand pit and a sheltered mud kitchen. A separate spacious open-sided structure is set up as an outdoor room and contains a range of play materials, tables and seating to facilitate outdoor play and activities under shelter.

(b) All children attending the service are aged 2 years and older and the children who still avail of a daytime nap are facilitated to sleep on one of the 5 sleep mats provided in the Lavender Room. The room which was previously operated as a sleep room, adjacent to the Lavender Room, has been re-purposed as a sensory room. A rest area is available in the care rooms with soft floor mats and cushions provided to enable a child to rest and take a break from activities throughout the day if required.

(3)(a) The outdoor play area is fully enclosed by walls and fencing. The outdoor play area is observed to be suitable and secure, and no safety hazards are noted. A broad range of play materials and equipment are available in the outdoor area to facilitate play.

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.

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A three-week menu is on display with the service providing breakfast and dinner for the children, cooked and prepared on site. Parents provide the children's morning snacks and afternoon snacks from home. Drinking water is available and accessible to the children in the individual care rooms.

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 inspector did not identify any hazards that would impact the health, safety or welfare of the children attending the service. It appears that appropriate measures have been undertaken in the service to ensure the safety of the children. Examples of these measures include the premises and outdoor play areas being appropriately secured, the provision of thermostatically controlled warm water in the sanitary accommodation and at the sinks in the care rooms, and medication and cleaning agents being stored safely out of the reach of children.

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 registered provider is aware of the requirement to ensure that a person with in-date first aid response (FAR) training is at all times immediately available to the children attending the service. Training certificates are available to show that 8 staff members hold in-date first aid response (FAR) training and their scheduled attendance in the service's staff roster confirms that a suitably trained first aider is at all times immediately available to the children when the service is in operation.

(2)(a)(b) The first aid boxes available in the service are suitably equipped and stored in conspicuous locations on the premises and are available for the children in attendance, in the event of an emergency.

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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) A record is maintained of the fire drills conducted in the service on a monthly basis, with the most recent fire drill documented as having taken place on 13/08/2024.
(b) Records are available showing that the firefighting equipment was serviced on 12/02/2024 and the smoke detection system is certified as having been serviced on 13/08/2024.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the premises.

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.

The registered provider currently has insurance cover in place for 59 pre-school children attending the service on a full day care basis from 28/03/2024 to 27/03/2025.
An additional insurance policy is available in the service showing insurance cover has been obtained for 67 children attending the full day care service, to commence on 26/08/2024 until 27/03/2025.

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.

	<p>(a) The premises appears to be in satisfactory condition and appropriately maintained.</p> <p>(b) The service is appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access. The outdoor play area is secured with latched gates and fencing.</p> <p>(c) Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The premises is adequately lit by means of natural lighting supplemented by artificial lighting. <p>Heating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service is heated by means of a gas fired central heating system. <p>Ventilation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ventilation is provided by means of openable windows and trickle vents. <p>(d) The premises is in a clean condition and appears to be in a satisfactory state of repair.</p> <p>(e) The service is equipped with adequate sanitary facilities for the increased proposed total number of 67 children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 6 toilets and accompanying wash hand basin provided for use by children in the service. • Three nappy changing units with accompanying wash hand basins are provided in the service. • One toilet and accompanying wash hand basin is provided for use by staff members on the ground floor in the early years premises whilst 2 further toilets are available in the registered provider’s attached dwelling for staff use, when required.
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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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) There is adequate clear floor space available for the safety, play and movement of the increased number of 67 pre-school children proposed to attend the service.

(2) The minimum space regulatory requirement can be met for the increased number of 67 pre-school children proposed to be accommodated in the service. The registered provider is aware of the minimum clear floor space requirements as specified in Schedule 7.

- The clear floor space in the Lavender Room measures 24.63 square metres. This meets the space requirements for a maximum of 10 pre-school children aged 2 - 3 years being accommodated in this room on a part-time or on a full day care basis.
- The clear floor space in the Bluebell Room measures 30.57 square metres. This meets the space requirements for a maximum of 13 pre-school children aged 2 - 6 years being accommodated in this room on a part-time or on a full day care basis or 16 children aged 2½ - 6 years attending on a sessional basis.
- The clear floor space in the Sunflower Room measures 37.12 square metres. This meets the space requirements for a maximum of 16 pre-school children aged 3 – 6 years being accommodated in this room on a part-time or on a full day care basis or 20 children aged 2½ - 6 years attending on a sessional basis.
- The clear floor space in the Daisy Room measures 24.23 square metres. This meets the space requirements for a maximum of 10 pre-school children aged 2 - 6 years being accommodated in this room on a part-time or on a full day care basis or 13 children aged 2½ - 6 years attending on a sessional basis.
- The clear floor space in the Poppy Room measures 28.35 square metres. This meets the space requirements for a maximum of 12 pre-school children aged 2 - 6 years being accommodated in this room on a part-time or on a full day care basis or 15 children aged 2½ - 6 years attending on a sessional basis. However, as this room is located in a prefabricated unit away from the main building and is provided with only 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin, a maximum no of 11 children can be accommodated in this room.