

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

**Tusla I.D:** TU2015LH034

**Name of Service** Happy Dayz Creche

**Address of Service:** Sandy Lane  
Blackrock  
Co. Louth

**Email Address:** deborah\_happydayz@live.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Deborah Mc Crea

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

**Proposed change:** The registered provider proposes to increase the number of preschool children attending from 22 to 25.

**Proposed Number of Children:** 25

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** 25

**Registered change:** Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 22 to 25

**Date of Inspection:** 2 7 0 6 2 0 2 3

**Inspection undertaken by:** M. Flood

**Title:** Early Years Inspector

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Early Years Inspectorate, Child Wellbeing Centre,  
Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan

**Rationale for Inspection:**  
**Proposed Change of Circumstance**

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day Care Service for 25 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> July 2023

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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>Happy Dayz is a privately owned service in operation in its current location since January 2005. The service is currently registered to cater for a maximum of 22 pre-school children and provides Sessional, Part-time and Full Day Care services to pre-school children from 3 years to 6 years of age.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes to increase the number of preschool children attending from 22 to 25.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The service is located in a residential area in Blackrock, Co. Louth. The premises is a purposely developed dwelling with 1 large playroom in operation with an adjoining small area which is used for reading and quiet time. The service has an outdoor play area in the garden to the rear of the premises where children have access to play equipment. Ancillary accommodation consists of sanitary accommodation, a kitchen area and hallway which incorporates the office.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The service employs 4 staff including the Registered Provider.</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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<p>The Inspector would like to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.</p>

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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. The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy.

### 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:**

(1) The requirement has been met.

It is proposed that four adults including the registered provider will be available to work directly with the pre-school children. The Registered Provider is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 1 and 2 of Schedule 6.

### 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.

(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

**Requirement met:**

(1)(a) The requirement has been met.

The preschool children have access to adequate and suitable facilities for play both indoors and outdoors on the premises. The playroom is laid out with an adequate number of tables and chairs, some defined interest areas which are well supported with toys and equipment. A variety of Montessori equipment and tabletop toys are also available.

(3) The pre-school children have access to an outdoor area which is located to the rear of the premises. The area is enclosed and is accessed via the patio door in the playroom. A partially covered area is available and contains a number of play kitchens and

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	equipment. A variety of toys and equipment are also provided in the open area which is paved and includes water trays, a variety of seating, toy kitchen and ride on equipment.
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	(1)(b) The requirement has not been met. There is an inadequate rest area available. While it is acknowledged that three-day beds are available for any child who requires sleep, there is no soft area that facilitates a child to rest and take a break from activities during the day.
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	The registered provider stated that a rest area for the children that includes a mat and extra pillows has been set up. Photographic evidence has been submitted. A child's couch has been purchased.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	Based on the information submitted the regulatory requirement has been met.

### 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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	The requirement has been met. Snacks and lunches are provided by the parents for the children attending the service on a sessional and full day care basis. A refrigerator is available in the kitchen area for the appropriate storage of perishable items. Potable drinking water is available in the service.
-------------------------	--

### 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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	The requirement has been met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The external doors were appropriately secured to prevent children exiting from the service unsupervised or to prevent unauthorised access to the service.</li> <li>• The designated emergency exits were clear and unobstructed.</li> <li>• The radiators are guarded so that they are inaccessible to the preschool children. The radiator in the sanitary area while not in operation during the inspection is reported to be thermostatically controlled.</li> <li>• A supply of thermostatically controlled hot water to a maximum of 43 °C is available in the service.</li> <li>• No trailing cables, wires or flexes were accessible to the preschool children.</li> <li>• All blind cords were restricted in the service.</li> </ul>
-------------------------	---

### Part VI - Safety

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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.  
The service had a person trained in first aid for children available to the preschool children in the service at all times.  
A suitably equipped first aid box was available in the service and was stored in a safe and conspicuous location.

### 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.  
A recording system is in place to maintain a record of monthly fire drills.  
A maintenance record for the fire- fighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises was submitted by the registered provider and was dated 09/2022.  
A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was available in the service. The fire assembly point was clearly identified and visible.

### 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. Documentary evidence was available of adequate insurance cover for 35 pre-school children for full day care.

### Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Regulation 29 – Premises</b>	
<p>A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) of sound and stable structure,</li> <li>(b) safe and secure,</li> <li>(c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated,</li> <li>(d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and</li> <li>(e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been partially met.</p> <p>On visual inspection the building appeared to be sound and stable. The premises was safe and secure.</p> <p>The premises was adequately lit by means of natural lighting and supplemented by artificial lighting. All lights were fitted with protective covers.</p> <p>The premises were heated by means of gas-fired central heating. Ventilation was provided by means of open able windows and doors and an additional mechanical ventilation fan in the sanitary area.</p> <p>The premises was found in a clean condition and in good repair. There were an adequate number of toilets and wash hand basins available for the proposed number of children attending the service.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>The requirement has not been met.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The nappy changing mat was ripped rendering it unsuitable for use.</li> <li>2. The bin observed in the nappy change area was unsuitable for the appropriate disposal of soiled nappies.</li> </ol>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<p>The registered provider provided evidence that a new nappy bin with peddle and changing mat have been purchased. Photographic evidence of receipts for purchased pedal operated bin and napping changing mat have been submitted.</p>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>Based on the information submitted the regulatory requirement has been met.</p>

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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) Adequate clear floor space for the proposed increase in numbers to 25 is available in the pre-school service for the children's work, play and movement.
- (2) A total of 53.5m<sup>2</sup> clear floor space is available in the playroom and adjoining sensory area. This ensured that there is sufficient space to cater for the proposed 25 pre-school children aged 3-6 years who could attend on a sessional basis. The registered provider is aware of the space requirements for children attending the service on a part-time and full day care basis.