

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.:	TU2015LK047
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Name of Service	Clanmaurice Preschool
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Address of Service:	1 Clanmaurice Gardens, Ennis Road, Limerick, V94 WE54
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Email Address:	clanmauricepreschool@gmail.com
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Name of Registered Provider:	Ruth O Neill
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change:	Change in service type from a Sessional service (9.00 to 12.00) to Part time service (9.00 to 13.00)
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Proposed Number of Children:	Sessional: 22 Part time: 16
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Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Change in service type from a Sessional service (9.00 to 12.00) to Part time service (9.00 to 13.00) No of Children: Sessional service 22 preschool children Part time service 16 preschool children.
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Registered change:	Change in service type from sessional to part-time & sessional Change in hours from 09:00 – 12:00 to 09:00 – 13:00
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Date of Inspection:	3	1	0	7	2	0	2	5
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Inspection undertaken by:	M Riordan
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Title:	Early Years Inspector
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Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate Office, Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick.
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Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part-Time & Sessional for 22(Max 16 Part-time) Children
Date of Registration	14th August 2025

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	Clanmaurice Preschool is a privately owned sessional preschool service located in an urban area, on the outskirts of Limerick City. The service provides a morning sessional service from 9.00am to 12.00md, Monday to Friday. The service can accommodate 22 pre-school children at any one time.
Premises	The service operates from a well-resourced pre-school room adjacent to the registered providers' family home. An outdoor play area is located to the rear of the premises. Sanitary facilities are located next to the playroom.
Staffing	The registered provider is the designated person in charge of operating the service. There is 1 additional staff employed to work at the school. Both staff have achieved a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education. A relief staff is also available if required.
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 wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider 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:

(1) (a) The registered provider is the designated person in charge and a named deputy is available if 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.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—

(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Requirement met:

(1) The registered provider has committed to ensuring that there are adequate numbers of adults working directly with the children daily.
Two staff will be available for the duration of the morning sessional service and 2 staff will be available between 12.00 and 13.00 for the children attending for the part time service.

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) There are adequate facilities for the children to play indoors.
The downstairs care room is of adequate size to accommodate tables and chairs for each child. Areas of interest are set up which would facilitate independent play in small or large groups. Toys and resources are at a height that is accessible to all children.

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(b) There is a quiet area in the room that can facilitate time away from the main play area but can be easily supervised by the staff. This area contained a floor mat, soft seating and cushions for comfort.

(3)(a) The facilities for play outside are directly adjacent to the playroom and can be easily accessed from the preschool room. This area is secured with high walls surrounding the space and the registered provider states this area will be supervised by adequate staff when in use. A selection of sensory play and messy play activities are provided in the enclosed space and ride on toys and balls are available for use by the children.

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 service has a healthy eating policy which is shared with parents, and all food is provided by the parents/guardians of the children attending the service. A healthy snack will be provided mid-morning, and a second snack will be served to those attending the part time 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.

Requirement met:

- A fridge was provided in the service for the safe storage of perishable food items contained in children's lunches.
- There was access to hot water, liquid hand soap and to paper towels at each of the children's wash hand basins.
- There were lidded pedal operated bins available for the disposal of the used paper towels in the toilets and in the care room.
- The window openings were at a high level that could not be accessed by the children.
- The dedicated outdoor play area was enclosed with a high boundary wall, with timber railing and a gate.
- The toys and equipment were free from pinch and crush points.
- The high shelving units in the care room were secured to the walls.
- There were no ponds, pits or other hazardous areas in the outdoor area.
- The fire exit doors were unobstructed.

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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:

- (1) Both staff working at the service have up to date First Aid Response certification.
- (2) (a) There was a first aid box available in the preschool room, this was appropriately stocked and was accessible to the adults.
- (b) The first aid box was always available to staff.

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:

- (1)(a) A template was available for the recording of monthly fire drills. The fire assembly point was identified in the external area to the side of the building.
- (b) The servicing of the firefighting equipment was last completed in July 2025. A service record was available for the fire detection and alarm system dated the 23rd of July 2025.
- (4) The procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were displayed at the entrance door.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

Requirement met:

An insurance quote was provided which indicated potential insurance cover for a Part time service. 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.

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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:

- (a) The service is located in a preschool room in a converted annex adjacent to the registered providers family home. The building appeared to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) The doors to the service were secured which ensured that no child could leave the service and no unauthorised person could gain access to the premises. The designated outdoor space was secured by high walls, timber railing and a gate.
- (c) Natural and artificial lighting was provided in the service. The artificial lighting was provided by covered fluorescent lights. The rooms were heated by gas fired thermostatically controlled radiators. Natural ventilation was provided through openable windows throughout.
- (d) The premises was clean, well maintained and appeared to be in a good state of repair.
- (e) There were two children’s toilets, and two wash hand basins provided. There was one toilet with one wash hand basis available for the staff in the adjacent home.

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:

- (1) The registered provider has ensured adequate clear floor space is available to the children attending.
- (2) The space available measured 40m² which was sufficient space to accommodate the proposed 22 preschool children to attend on a sessional basis and the proposed 16 preschool children to attend on a part time basis.