

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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| Tusla I.D: | TU2015LK052 |
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| Name of Service | Coolfree Kids |
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| Address of Service: | Ballyorgan National School, Ballyorgan , Kilfinane Co Limerick |
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| Email Address: | coolfreecommunity1@gmail.com |
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| Name of Registered Provider: | Teresa Sheehy |
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| Type of Proposed Service: | Full Day Care | | Part-Time | ✓ | Sessional | |
| | Drop-In | | Childminding | | Temporary | |

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| Proposed change: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of children from 16 to 22 • Adding a part time service • Change in hours of operation |
| Proposed Number of Children: | 22 Preschool Children |
| Recommended Change Following Inspection: | All changes to be approved |
| Registered change: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 16 to 22 children. • Adding an additional service type from sessional to sessional & part-time. • Change in hours of operation from 09:30 – 12:30 to 08:00 – 12:30. |

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| Date of Inspection: | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
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| Inspection undertaken by: | J Ryan |
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| Title: | Early Years Inspector |
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| Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: | 2 nd Floor Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick |
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| Rationale for Inspection: |
| Proposed Change of Circumstance |

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

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| Registration Status: | Registered Part Time / Sessional Service for 22 Children |
| Date of Registration | 11 th July 2023 |

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|  An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach Child and Family Agency | Child and Family Agency Act 2013 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 | Version 05 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC) | 1 of 6 |
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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).

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| Description of Service | This service is located in a rural setting. A service is provided to children aged between 2-5 years and it is currently open from Monday to Friday between 09.30 hours and 12.30 hours. A school age service is also provided in the afternoon. |
| Premises | The premises are single storey located in a now closed national school with 2 rooms in use. |
| Staffing | There are five adults on the staff roster where includes the registered provider. Two staff work with the preschool children and three staff work directly with the school aged children. |
| 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 the registered provider, staff and children 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) There will be a designated person in charge and a named person who will be 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:

(1) Two staff are currently working in the service caring for 11 preschool children which is in compliance with the recommended adult/child ratios. Additional staff are available to supervise the children who attend the school aged 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.

Requirement met:

(1)(a) Both playrooms are well equipped with play materials and equipment. The rooms have areas of interest developed and all play equipment is stored at a low level, readily accessible to children. Facilities for outdoor play are available on site at the entrance to the service. There is a large grass area with a timber shelter, a selection of sensorial play materials and a large timber climbing frame. Picnic benches are located near the roofed area where children are sheltered from the sun. Children have their snacks outdoors as much as possible.

(b) The service has rest areas in both playrooms consisting of couches and floor mats for children to use if they are tired or need some quiet time away from the general play area. Sleep beds ,pillows, blankets and bean bags are available for the older children to rest and relax on if required.

(3)(a) The outdoor area is located at the front and rear of the service and is fully enclosed and secure with fencing and locked gates.

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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.

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| Requirement met: | A documented and detailed healthy eating policy and menu plan is available for the part-time service. All staff have completed food hygiene training and there is a specific staff member designated to cooking and cleaning duties. The registered provider was advised to contact their local Environmental Health officer to seek advice in relation to Food safety legislation requirements. |
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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.

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| Requirement met: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entrance door was locked and secure preventing unauthorised access and preventing a child leaving the service. • The emergency exit doors were unobstructed. • Drinking water was readily available to the children. • Safe storage was provided for the children’s belongings. • Storage for cleaning materials and equipment was provided in a secure area out of reach of the children. • The registered provider was advised that water temperatures must be maintained at or below 43°C. • The cords from blinds are made safe with the use of tension devices. • There were no trailing flexes and there was no television or stereo in the service. • All toys and play equipment were safe for the age of children using them. |
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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.*

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| Requirement met: | (1) Five staff have updated training in first aid for children (FAR) and the certificates were valid until 21/04/2025. (2)(a) There are two suitably equipped first aid boxes available on the premises. (b) The first aid box is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times. |
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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.

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| Requirement met: | (1)(a) A record in writing is kept of fire drills practiced monthly and documentation is available to indicate this. (b)The number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment indicated that they were last maintained in September 2022. The smoke alarms in the premises were last serviced in February 2023. (4)A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire is displayed in a conspicuous position in the entrance hallway. |
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Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

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| Requirement met: | The insurance certificate for the service is available and had an expiry date of 27/03/2024. |
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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.

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| Requirement met: | (a) On visual assessment the building appeared of a sound and stable structure. The premises was well maintained and in a good state of repair. (b) The entrance door was kept locked at all times. (c) The rooms had good levels of natural light via the windows. Room temperatures were maintained between 18 - 21°C. Ventilation was provided through openable windows in the rooms. (d) The premises was clean and all fixtures and fittings were in good repair. |
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(e) The sanitary accommodation included 3 toilets and 2 wash hand basins, plus 1 wash hand basin in the classroom, designated for use by children. Nappy changing facilities are not currently available.
Separate sanitary facilities for adults were available which included 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin.

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 30 – Minimum Space Requirements

(1) 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 space available indoors is sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed number of children to attend.

The measurements of the rooms were recorded as follows:

- Room 1: Space available = 31.62 sq. meters .
Allows a maximum of 17 (3-6 years) Sessional ECCE
Allows a maximum of 13 (2-3 years) Part- time.
- Room 2: Space available = 40.32 sq. meters.
Allows a maximum of 22 (3-6 years) Sessional ECCE
Allows a maximum of 17 (2-3 years) Part- time.

Total space = 71.94 sq. meters