

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D:** TU2015MH008

**Name of Service** Athboy Community Childcare CLG

**Address of Service:** Townspark, Athboy, Co. Meath

**Email Address:** athboyccc@hotmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Pearse Ferguson

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

<b>Proposed change:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A change in the number of children attending the service from 49 to 57 children.</li> <li>To add an additional pre-school room.</li> </ul>
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	57
<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service can accommodate 57 children in the additional pre-school room.</li> </ul>
<b>Registered change:</b>	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 49 to 57

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	3	0	0	4	2	0	2	4
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

**Inspection undertaken by:** D. Murray  
**Title:** Early Years Inspector.

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Tusla Early Years Inspectorate.  
 Family Resource Centre, Commons Road, Navan, Co. Meath

### 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 57 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024

# 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>Athboy Community Childcare CLG provides a full day care /part time service to children from 0 to 6 years. The service is open weekdays from 07.30am to 18.30pm and eligible children can avail of the state funded Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A change in the number of children attending the service from 49 to 57 children.</li> <li>• To add an additional Morning Part-Time Pre-school room from 08:50am to 13:30pm.</li> </ul>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The service is situated in a 2-storey purpose-built facility consisting of the following rooms:</p> <p>Downstairs:</p> <p>The Baby room, Toddler Part-time room, Toddler Full Day Care room and the Full day Care/ECCE room. At present the additional room (Morning Part-time Pre-school room) is used for school aged children from 2pm to 17:30pm.</p> <p>Upstairs:</p> <p>Two School Aged Rooms A and B.</p> <p>Other facilities include an office, kitchen, sanitary facilities (nappy changing area) and two cot rooms. The outdoor play area is located to the rear of the premises.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The registered provider proposes to have 1 childcare staff to work with the 8 additional children aged between 2 years 8 months to 6 years.</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</p>

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	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.
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The Inspector wish to acknowledge the co-operation of the 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>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	(1)(a) The requirement has been met.  The service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise 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>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	(1) The registered provider has ensured that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the Morning Part-time Pre-school room. The registered provider proposes to have 1 childcare staff to work with the 8 additional children aged between 2 years 8 months to 6 years.

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.

(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) The requirement has been met.

- Play materials and play equipment in the care room is visible and easily accessible to the children on open shelving at their height which supports children to have choices in selecting materials and equipment to play with. Tables and chairs are appropriate to the age and stage of development of pre-school children who will attend the care room. The care room is well resourced and has areas of interest with supporting equipment which incorporated natural/sensorial materials, art and crafts and a range of suitable toys.

(b) The requirement has been met.

- A cosy area consisting of a children’s couch is available in the care room for children to take a break from activities if needed. No child attending the proposed morning part-time pre-school room will require a sleep.

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

- There are 3 outdoor spaces with a low impact surface. There is also a polytunnel for the planting and growing of vegetables and flowers.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

The Baby room, Toddler Part-time room and Toddler Full Day care room have their own separate spaces. The larger area facilitates the remainder of the service. The large outdoor play area is equipped with age-appropriate play materials e.g. an activity unit with a slide, goal posts, play house, ride on toys, counting stand, wooden play hut, planting area, mud kitchen and a stationary unit with a climbing wall.

### 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:

All food is provided by the service and is cooked onsite by the resident cook. Breakfast is supplied consisting of a choice of cereals. An 8-week menu plan is available with a variety of main meals including beef, poultry, fish and a vegetarian option. Light snacks are available in the mornings and afternoons. Water and milk will be available throughout the day.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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 following safety measures are in place on the day of inspection:

- All cleaning agents are stored out of reach of the children.
- All play materials are placed on stable based shelving units. Play materials and equipment are observed to be safe and suitable for the developmental age of the pre-school children who will be attending the service.
- The emergency exit doors are unobstructed.
- Warm water, liquid soap and paper hand towels are provided to support hand hygiene in the sanitary accommodation.
- The cords on the blinds are mounted to the walls at the windows in the care room, out of reach of children.
- Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of nappies and general contaminated waste.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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) An adequate number of staff have up to date First Aid Responders course and will be available at all times to the children attending the pre-school service.
- (2)(a) and (b) The first aid box is suitably equipped and is safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position in the care rooms and are available at all times.

### 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 template is available to record fire drills that take place in the service.
- (b) A record is maintained of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke detection system in the service. The firefighting equipment which is due to be serviced in the coming days was last serviced in April 2023 and smoke detection system were last serviced on 15/03/2024.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was conspicuously displayed in the service.

### 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 service has adequate insurance for 75 children from the 28/03/24 to the 27/03/25.

### 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.

(a) From observation the walls, flooring, doors, and windows appeared to be suitably maintained with no visual safety issues or concerns identified.

(b) The main door to the service is secured with a buzzer system and the outdoor space is enclosed with walls and 2 gates. These security measures ensure that a child does not exit unsupervised and restricted unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service and outdoor spaces.

(c) Windows provide natural lighting to the care room. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required.

Heating is provided through under floor gas heating. The temperature of the pre-school room is maintained between 18°C to 22°C.

Natural ventilation is provided by opened doors and windows.

(d) The pre-school room is clean with cleaning schedules available to ensure regular cleaning is documented.

(e)The children’s sanitary facilities consist of the following:

The sanitary area off the Morning Part-time Pre-school room has 1 toilet closets,1 nappy changing unit mounted to the walls and 1 handwash basin. The nappy changing facility is for the children in the Toddler Part-time room. The Morning Part-time Pre-school room also has access to an additional toilet in the hallway which has 1 toilet closet and 1 sink.

# 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.

(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).

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider ensures that adequate clear floor space is available in the care room for the work, play and movement of the 57 children proposed.

(4) (a)&(b)

The Morning Part-time Pre-school room:

Free floor space available is 32.284 m<sup>2</sup>.

This provides sufficient space for the proposed:

- 8 children between the ages of 2 years 8 months to 6 years attending the sessional ECCE service.
- 8 children between the ages of 2 years 8 months to 6 years availing of the part-time service.