

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



4Tusla I.D: TU2015MH021

Name of Service Bumblebee Kids Ltd

Address of Service: The Briars, Ashbourne, Meath. A84 XT92.

Email Address: ciara3kavanagh@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Ciara Kavanagh

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	✓	Part-Time		Sessional	✓
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change: Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day and Sessional.
Change in Hours of Operation from 09:00am to 13:00pm to 07:30am to 18:00pm.

Proposed Number of Children: 40

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day and Sessional.
Change in Hours of Operation from 09:00am to 13:00pm to 07:30am to 18:00pm.

Registered change: Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day and Sessional.
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Date of Inspection:	2	4	0	2	2	0	2	6
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Inspection undertaken by: Y Kelly

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: 2nd Floor, Unit 4/5, The Nexus Building, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 15 D15CF9K

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 Full Day & Sessional Service for 40 Children
Date of Registration	13 March 2026

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	<p>Bumblebee Kids Ltd operates as a privately-owned service to children aged 2 to 6 years and participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE). The service is currently operating as a sessional early years service from 9.30am to 12.30pm each weekday.</p> <p>The service is proposing to operate as a full time and sessional service from 07:30am to 18:00pm.</p>
Premises	The service is situated in a residential area in Ashbourne and is purpose built consisting of 4 care rooms, 2 offices, kitchen and sanitary facilities. An enclosed outdoor area is located to the rear of the premises.
Staffing	The person in charge is present daily and works directly with the children. There is a named person to deputise as required. There are also 2 AIM Educators who share the role. The registered provider is present in the service occasionally, engaging in operational duties.
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</p>

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	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, 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

(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 requirement has been met.

There is a designated person in charge on a daily basis. There is a named person 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 2 of Schedule 6 and would ensure that an adequate number of adults would at all times work directly with the children in the 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The care rooms were resourced with a broad range of play materials and equipment to facilitate children to initiate and sustain meaningful play activities. Interest areas were clearly defined and included well-resourced home corners, with dress up materials, tabletop and small world areas, book and cosy corners, construction areas, arts and crafts and mark making areas. The play materials were stored in boxes and baskets at an accessible level to the pre-school children.

(b) Rest areas were available in the care rooms to enable a child to rest and take a break from activities throughout the day if required. There were soft floor mats, blankets, soft toys and books for rest and relaxation. There were 2 floor beds provided for pre-school children aged over 2 years of age who require to sleep in the service. This will increase as the need arises.

(3)(a) The service has a fully enclosed outdoor play area at the rear of the premises. In the outdoor play area, there was a large wooden climbing frame with a slide and swings. There were ride on bikes and small seesaw which provided opportunities for challenge, risk and fundamental movement skills. Resources are brought from indoors

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to the outdoor area and included a sand tray for sensory play. This area is secured by walls and a gate and is surfaced with artificial grass.

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. The service plans to provide 2 meals and 2 snacks for the children attending on a full-time basis and a proposed 2-week menu 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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

There are no hazards observed by the inspector that would impact the health, safety or welfare of the children attending the service. Appropriate measures have been undertaken in the service to ensure the safety of the children.

- The external doors, windows and outdoor play area were appropriately secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service.
- The furniture and equipment were in good condition and suitable for use by the proposed age groups.
- Cleaning agents were inaccessible to children and stored safely out of the reach of children.
- Thermostatically controlled running water was available at the wash hand basins in the service.
- The fire procedures are displayed throughout the building.

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- The outdoor play area is fully enclosed at the rear of the premises and is secured with concrete walls and a gate thus preventing a pre-school child from exiting the area.

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 has ensured that a person trained in first aid is available at all times to the children attending the pre-school service. There is evidence available in the service to show that 2 staff members to include the registered provider hold in-date First Aid Response (FAR) training.

(2)(a)(b) First aid boxes were suitably equipped and stored in readily accessible and conspicuous positions on the premises and are available at all times for the children if necessary.

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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 was maintained of fire drills which are completed on a monthly basis in the service. Written records of fire drills are kept. The last fire drill took place on the 09 January 2026.

(b) A record was kept of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the service. The fire extinguishers were serviced on 21 October 2025, and the Fire Detection and Smoke Alarm System was service on the 08 October 2025.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the care rooms and throughout 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.

A current insurance certificate is in place for up to 25 children to attend the service on a part time basis, valid until 27 March 2026.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the registration team prior to this inspection.

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 provider compliance with regulation 28.

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) The premises appeared to be in a good condition throughout.

(b) The premises appears safe and was found to be appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the Early Years’ service. There is an intercom system throughout the building.

(c)

Lighting:

The premises is adequately lit by means of natural lighting supplemented by artificial lighting.

Heating:

The premises is heated by a gas-fired central heating system with radiators throughout the building covered with radiator guards.

Ventilation:

Windows allow fresh air to circulate in the four care rooms. There are air purifiers for use throughout the building.

(d) The premises was in a clean condition and in a good state of repair.

(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary accommodation including nappy changing facilities are available in the service.

Sanitary accommodation location	Toilets for staff	Sinks for Staff	Toilets for children	Sinks for children	Nappy changing
Accessible Sanitary facility	1	1	0	0	0
Room 1	0	1	1	1	1
Room 2	0	1	1	1	1
Room 3	0	1	1	1	1
Room 4	0	1	1	1	1
Total	1	5	4	4	4

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.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a sessional pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre shall ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*
- (4) *Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—*
- (a) *a sessional pre-school service, and*

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(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. There is adequate clear floor space available for 40 children.

(1) The registered provider ensured that adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the service.

(2) The minimum amount of clear floor space is available in the care rooms as the table below demonstrates.

Room	*Clear floor space available
Room 1	29.8m ²
Room 2	28.7m ²
Room 3	31.7m ²
Room 4	36.7m ²

*Based on Schedule 7 Minimum Space Requirements Full day care service or part-time day care service.

The above table illustrates that the minimum clear floor space is available in the care rooms of the service to accommodate 40 children on a sessional and full day care basis.

(3) The registered provider ensured that a minimum space of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service on a sessional basis.

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(4)(a) The minimum clear floor space is available for the duration of the sessional pre-school service.

(b) The minimum clear floor space is available for a full day care service or a part-time day care service.