

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015MN002

Name of Service Art Mooney Childcare

Address of Service: Lisdoney Oram Castleblayney, Monaghan, A75H921

Email Address: art.mooneychildcare@yahoo.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Lorraine Conlon

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

Proposed change: Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 62 to 69 children (existing rooms).

Proposed Number of Children: 69

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Increase in numbers from 62 to 69.

Registered change: Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 62 to 69 children

Date of Inspection:	0	8	1	2	2	0	2	5
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Inspection undertaken by: S Skinnader

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: No.18 The Grange Plantation Walk, Plantation Walk Monaghan

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 69 Children
Date of Registration	9 th January 2026

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).

Description of Service	Art Mooney Childcare has been operating as a community run childcare service since 2009. They provide full day care, part-time and sessional education and care to pre-school children aged from 1 - 6 years of age. The service is open from 08:00 to 18:00 each weekday and caters for a maximum of 62 children.
Premises	The service operates from a purpose-built building in the rural area of Oram Castleblayney Co. Monaghan. The service currently has 3 care rooms in operation the Junior and Senior Preschool Rooms and Baby Toddler Room. There are sanitary accommodations, nappy changing facilities, a kitchen, a laundry/storeroom, sluice room, staff room and an office.
Staffing	There are 17 staff employed in the service - 13 including the person in charge who work directly with the preschool children, 1 employed in administration, 1 employed for the school age children and in a supernumerary capacity in the Baby Toddler Room and 2 cooks.
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 deputy person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

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.

(1)(a) There is a designated person in charge and 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) There is an adequate number of staff members available to work directly with the pre-school children in the rooms. An extra staff member will be provided for the Baby / Toddler Room. The registered provider is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 1 and 2 of Schedule 6.

(2)

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,

(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.

The preschool children have access to adequate and suitable facilities for play both indoors and outdoors on the premises. The care rooms are bright and spacious with age-appropriate toys and equipment in all rooms.

(b) The children have access to a soft cosy area in all rooms which consist of a mix of sofas, throws, matted areas, bean bags in the Senior Room and cushions. There is a

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

sleep room off the Baby Toddler Room with 6 cots for children aged under 2 years. There are 8 daybeds available for children aged over 2 years of age.
(3)(a) The pre-school children have access to an existing large enclosed outdoor area to the rear of the building which was secured and fenced.

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 breakfast is provided if required. Morning snack is provided by the parents. The onsite cooks provide the dinner and afternoon snacks. There are fridges in the rooms for the storage of perishable food and bottles of infant formula or milk. There are extra snacks available if required. The lunches and drinks are provided by parents. Drinks are accessible to the preschool children and potable drinking water will always be available to the children.

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.
For example, the external doors are appropriately secured to prevent a preschool child exiting unaccompanied. All cleaning agents and medications are stored out of the reach of children up high in a locked cupboard. Emergency doors are unobstructed and there is a designated fire assembly point in the outdoor area.

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) Eight staff members have up to date FAR training. Certificates of training were available for inspection.

(2)(a) A suitably stocked first aid box was provided in each room.

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) and (b) A template is available to record fire drills. A record is available for the servicing of the firefighting equipment, and the fire alarm system dated 08/2025 and 3/12/25 respectively.

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

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.

Insurance is in place for the preschool children which covers a maximum of 76 children and expires on the 27/03/26.

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 service is operating from a premises which appears on visual inspection to be structurally sound.

(b) The service is safe and secure with a locked entrance. The outdoor play area to the back of the building is fenced and secured.

(c) Light levels in the care rooms and sanitary accommodations are adequate and are provided by means of natural light through windows and supplemented with covered fluorescent lights.

The room temperature in the care rooms is adequate. Heating is by means of underfloor heating.

Ventilation: The care rooms are ventilated by means of openable windows and some mechanical ventilation.

(d) The premises, toys and equipment are in a clean condition and in good repair. Cleaning schedules are available.

(e)

- Baby/ Toddler Room: There is 1 child sized toilet and 2 nappy changing mats and 2 sinks. Additionally, there is 1 adult toilet off the Baby Room with another wall mounted changing mat and 1 sink.
- Junior Room: There are 2 child sized toilets and 2 sinks. This room can also access the nappy changing off the Baby/ Toddler Room.
- Senior Room: There are 2 toilets and 3 wash hand basins.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

- One additional adult toilet and wash hand basin is available off the staff room and there is a disabled access toilet in the hallway.
- There are pedal operated lidded bins in the service. The sanitary areas have a continuous supply of thermostatically controlled running water, a supply of liquid soap and a supply of blue paper towels.

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) and (2)

Baby / Toddler Room: There is approximately 81m² available in the care room which can accommodate the proposed 25 children aged 1-3 years.

Junior Room: There is approximately 32m² available in the care room which can accommodate the proposed 22 children aged 3-4 years.

Senior Room: There is approximately 54m² available in the care room and 17m² in the Quiet Room which can accommodate the proposed 22 children aged 3-5 years.