

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015MN054

Name of Service: Respond Early Years' Service Carrickmacross

Address of Service: 5 Plás Fionn Barra
Convent Lands
Carrickmacross
Co Monaghan
A81 NX86

Email Address: carrickmacrosschildc@respond.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Lisa O Rourke

Type of Proposed Service:	Sessional	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change: Change in age profile from 1 – 6 years, to 9 months - 6 years.

Proposed Number of Children: No change to the number of children which will remain at 43

Registered change: Change in age profile to 9 months – 6 years

Date of Inspection: 1 8 0 8 2 0 2 2

Inspection undertaken by: AM Coyle

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate
Child and Family Agency
180-189 Lakeshore Drive
Airside Business Park
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Rationale for Inspection:

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Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered for 43 children, age profile 9 months – 6 years
Date of Registration	16.09.2022

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	Respond Early Years' Service Carrickmacross is a not-for-profit early years' service which has been in operation since 2006. The service proposes to provide full day, part time, and sessional preschool care and education to children from 9 months until they commence attendance at primary school. The service operates from 8:30am to 5:30pm Monday to Friday. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE) from 09:00am to 12 midday daily.
Premises	Respond Early Years' Service Carrickmacross is located on the ground floor of administrative building in a residential housing estate. There are 3 care rooms in the service namely the Baby room, the Junior preschool room, and the Senior preschool room. Two enclosed outdoor spaces are located to the rear of the service.
Staffing	The service employs a total of 11 staff members including 2 staff members employed under a community employment scheme. Eight staff members work directly with the children attending the service.
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 two themes; Governance, and Safety.</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 presented to the Registration Panel for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving continued registration. 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, 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:

The requirement has been met. The service has designated person in charge and a named deputy.

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. The service employs 11 staff members including a cook. Two staff members are employed under a community employment scheme. The person in charge is not allocated to a care room but is available to provide support across all care rooms as required

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.

(2) A registered provider—

(b) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises on or after 30 June 2016, shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool 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 Baby room, Junior Preschool room and the Senior Preschool room all have low shelving units available for the

storage of toys and equipment for the children. The care rooms were well resourced and included the following:

The Baby Room:

- A well-resourced home corner.
- A cosy area with age-appropriate couches and soft furnishings.
- Literacy resources including books.
- A range of art materials.
- Transport toys.
- A broad range of equipment for tabletop activities.

The Junior Preschool room:

- A well-resourced home area with equipment for children to extend their play.
- Art resources.
- A cosy area located alongside a library area which had a good range of books.
- Tabletop resources including jigsaws and small world materials.

The Senior Preschool room:

- A well-developed home area.
- Dress up resources.
- Transport toys including a large train track.
- Art materials
- A wide range of tabletop resources including jigsaws and small world materials.
- Cosy area alongside a well-resourced library area.

(b) The requirements have been met. There are 4 standard cots available in the sleep room adjacent to the Baby room to facilitate the sleep requirements for the children less than 2 years of age who may require sleeping in the service. Low level beds are available to children over the age of 2 years who require to sleep in the service.

A cosy area is available which included appropriately sized couches, mats and soft cushions in the 3 care rooms should the children chose to take a break from the activities throughout the day.

(2) There are 2 enclosed outdoor areas in the service. One area is directly accessible from both the Baby room and the Junior Preschool room. This area has a concrete perimeter and is predominantly surfaced with grass. A mud kitchen, wooden tepee, wooden playhouse, a sand pit, 2 small slides and a

water table are available for the children to use. The second enclosed area is used by the children attending the Senior preschool room was surfaced with grass. A mud kitchen, wooden teepee, a sand tray, a water wall and dome climbing frame are provided for the children to play with in addition to an area with trees and planting opportunities.

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 provides all meals and snacks to children attending on a full day care basis all of which are prepared by an onsite chef. Breakfast is available to the children on arrival to the service, morning snack is served at 10am, dinner is provided at 12 midday and tea is served at 3pm. Children attending the service on a sessional basis bring their own snack with them from home.

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 requirements have been met.

1. The main entrance door which leads into the service is appropriately secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service. A call bell is available on the external door to the service and a fob system is used on the internal doors.
2. All low-level windows have been fitted with restrictive opening devices.
3. The play materials and equipment in the service were stored on stable-based low level shelving units. The play materials and equipment were observed to be safe and suitable for the developmental age of the pre-school children.
4. The outdoor area is secure thus preventing a pre-school child from exiting the area and preventing unauthorised access to the service.
5. Bins are provided for the collection of waste in the care room. Refuge bins are securely stored outside in an area which is inaccessible to the children.
6. The fire exits are clearly marked in the service.
7. A system is available for the safe storage of cleaning agents and equipment.

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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met

(1) A number of staff members have in date first aid responder training.

(2) The first aid boxes were suitably equipped and safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position in the service and was available in the pre-school 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 was maintained of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke detection system of the service. The firefighting equipment was last serviced on 24/06/2022. The smoke detection system was serviced on 24/06/2022.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.

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. An insurance certificate confirming insurance for 43 children attending the service at any one time up until 28/02/2023 was available.

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 building was of sound and stable structure.

(b) The building was safe and secure. The entrance door to the service and the internal doors was adequately secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service.

(c) All of the care rooms in the service have numerous windows which provide all of the rooms with natural light. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Appropriate shatter proof coverings were provided on the ceiling lighting. The temperature of the care rooms was 18.5°C on the day of inspection.

There are sufficient windows provided in the care rooms to achieve adequate ventilation.

The radiators in the care rooms are covered with fixed timber guards which are secured to the wall and are heated by oil fired central heating.

(d) The service was in a clean condition on the day of inspection. Cleaning schedules are available. Pedal operated refuse bins were provided in the care rooms.

(e) The building was equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.

	<p>The sanitary area used by the children attending both the Baby room and the Junior preschool had 2 toilets, a wall mounted nappy changing unit was available in addition to 1 children’s sink and a sink for adults to wash their hands. In both the Junior Preschool room and the Baby room there is 1 adult sink and 1 child’s sink provided.</p> <p>Two separate toilets with 1 wash hand basin provided in each toilet are located directly across the hallway from the Senior Preschool room and are available for the children to use. A sink is provided in the Senior Preschool room.</p> <p>Warm water not exceeding 43 °C, liquid soap and paper towels are provided at all of the wash hand basins. Two staff toilets are located on the first floor of the service.</p>
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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 requirement has been met.
- (2) The clear floor space of the baby room was 23.1 m² This provides sufficient space for the 8 children between the age of 9 months to 2 years year to be cared for in this room.
- The clear floor space of Junior Preschool room was 26.05 m² which provides sufficient space for 14 children between 2.5 years to 4.5 years who attend the room on a sessional ECCE basis to be cared for in this room.
- The clear floor space of Senior Preschool room was 38.17 m² this provides sufficient space to care for the 21 children aged between 2 years 8 months and 5 years who attend the room on a sessional ECCE basis to be cared for in this room.