

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2015MO018							
<b>Name of Service</b>	Barnacarroll Pre-school							
<b>Address of Service:</b>	Barnacarroll Community Centre, Barnacarroll, Claremorris, Mayo							
<b>Email Address:</b>	barnacarrollchildcare@gmail.com							
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Breda Reaney							
<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	✓	<b>Part-Time</b>	✓	<b>Sessional</b>	✓		
	<b>Drop-In</b>		<b>Childminding</b>		<b>Temporary</b>			
<b>Proposed change:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in the number of children that can be accommodated from 26 to 37.</li> <li>Addition of a session -additional morning session.</li> </ul>							
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	37							
<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	Approve all changes							
<b>Registered change:</b>	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 26 to 37. Addition of a morning session.							
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	2	7	1	1	2	0	2	3
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	M Farrell							
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector							
<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Early Year's Inspectorate, 2nd Floor,							
	St. Mary's HQ., Castlebar,							
	Co Mayo.							

### 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 37 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023

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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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	Barnacarroll Pre-school is located in a rural area in Barnacarroll near Claremorris, County Mayo. The service is registered to provide full day care services to children aged between 2 and 6 years from 07:30-18:00. The service is registered to provide school aged childcare services.
<b>Premises</b>	The service operates from a section of a community centre beside the local primary school. There is one playroom on the ground floor and the service proposes to open an additional session in a playroom on the first floor currently used by school aged children. The service has two additional playrooms on the first floor, sanitary facilities, an office, a dining room, and a kitchen for the preparation of meals. Outdoor play areas are provided for the children on the premises. The service also has access to the community sports hall in the building and the use of the adjacent primary school grounds.
<b>Staffing</b>	There are sixteen adults currently working in the service including the manager, childcare workers, kitchen staff and staff employed through community employment schemes.
<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 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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)

(a) There is a designated person in charge in the service.

(b) There is a named person to deputise in the service as needed.

### 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 children proposed to attend the playroom are to be aged over 2 years and 6 months with the required sessional child ratios for this age group of 1 adult for every 11 children. It is proposed that 2 staff members will be employed to care directly for the proposed additional 11 children.

### 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:

The requirement has been partially met.

(1)

(a)

The proposed playroom has adequate amounts of toys and play equipment for the eleven children to attend sessional services in the room. The play equipment is displayed in open accessible storage, at low levels facilitating a child-led learning environment. Tables and adequate numbers of age-appropriate chairs are provided for the children to facilitate tabletop activities, snack time and group work in the proposed playroom.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<p>There are defined interest areas in the proposed playroom including a kitchen/home corner, construction area with work benches and tools, transport toys, puzzles and library/book area. There are additional stores of play equipment and books in the service for rotation depending on children's interests. Age-appropriate art and craft equipment is available in the proposed playroom. Messy play will include playdough work indoors with a large mud kitchen area and sand tables available to children for messy play outdoors. The enclosed outdoor area at the rear of the premises has a range of play opportunities for children including balance beams, a slide, low level climbing system and ride on cars. There is a shelter to allow the area to be used by children in inclement weather. The sheltered play area has covered sand tables with utensils, a mud kitchen area and picnic bench style seating.</p> <p>(3)</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>The enclosed outdoor area to the rear of the building accessible via the community centre's sports hall is suitable, safe and secure. There is concrete ground cover with impact absorbent mats where required at items of play equipment such as the slide. The entrance gates to the enclosed outdoor area have securing mechanisms in place for staff to control access to the area.</p>
<p><b>Requirement not met:</b></p>	<p>Requirement not met:</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(b) The soft seating proposed to be available in the playroom for children to rest/relax on is threadbare in places and would pose difficulties in effectively cleaning the seating.</p>
<p><b>Response from Provider:</b></p>	<p>The service advised that:</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>A leather couch will be available for the children in the playroom. The service submitted photographic evidence of the replacement leather couch to the Early Years Inspectorate.</p>
<p><b>Summary Comment:</b></p>	<p>The regulatory requirement has now been met.</p>

### 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.*

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is proposed that healthy foods in line with the service’s healthy eating policy are to be provided from home for the children’s lunches. Information for parents on types of suitable healthy food items are included in the service’s healthy eating policy.</li> <li>The person in charge advised the inspector that drinking water will always be available to the children in the proposed new playroom at a dispenser. The proposed children will also have drinks in individual containers to be provided from home.</li> </ul>
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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirements have been partially met.</p> <p><b>General Safety</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an alarm system in place on the emergency exit doors in the community hall and in the dining room to alert staff if the doors are opened.</li> <li>Restricting devices are in place where needed on windows to restrict their opening.</li> <li>Blind cords on the windows are secured with appropriate securing devices.</li> <li>Secure storage for medication is available in the office.</li> <li>The stairway has a non-slip floor covering and handrails in place.</li> <li>There is a securable cupboard off the hallway for the storage of cleaning products.</li> <li>The door to the kitchen on the first floor is to be secured to prevent access by children.</li> <li>The toys and equipment available in the playroom are in satisfactory condition.</li> </ul> <p><b>Infection control</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Storage is available for cleaning equipment such as mops and buckets in the downstairs sluice area.</li> <li>Aprons and gloves are provided for use as needed.</li> <li>Foot pedal operated waste storage bins are provided for the disposal of waste in the service.</li> <li>Records of regular pest control services are available with the last servicing by the company dated as the 29 May 2023.</li> <li>A refrigerator is provided in the playroom for the storage of perishable food items.</li> </ul>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>The following requirements have not been met.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electrical cables leading from the television mounted on the wall require to be safely secured out of potential reach of children.</li> <li>There is no notice in place clearly identifying the fire assembly point in the service for the children and staff of the proposed new playroom.</li> </ol>

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Response from Provider:</b>	The service advised that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Television cables have been tied up. Wires have been put behind tubing.</li> <li>2. Fire assembly signs have been put up in the school grounds.</li> </ol> <p>The service submitted photographic evidence of the actions taken to the Early Years Inspectorate.</p>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	The regulatory requirements have now been met.

### 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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	The requirement has been met. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Certification of completion of First Aid Responder (FAR) training was available for three staff members providing adequate first aid cover to children in the service.</li> <li>(2)                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) A suitably equipped first aid box is stored in a cupboard in the playroom out of potential reach of children.</li> <li>(b) The first aid equipment is to be available at all times to children attending the pre-school service.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	The requirement has been met. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1)                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The staff members keep records of all monthly fire drills that take place on the premises on an electronic application.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<p>(b) A record is available of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises. The firefighting equipment was last serviced on the 14 March 2023 and the fire detection and alarm system was last maintained on the 14 September 2023.</p> <p>(4) Detailed notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire are displayed in the proposed new playroom.</p>
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### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

**Requirement met:** The service has insurance in place for a maximum of 70 children at any one time valid until the 27 March 2024.

### 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:**

(a) No obvious defects were observed in the building structure.

(b) The main entrance door at the front of the building and the internal entrance doors to the service from the community centre have securing devices in place to allow staff to control entry to and exit from the service.

(c) **Lighting:**  
There is natural light from windows and artificial lighting provided in the premises which is adequate and suitable for the provision of a childcare service. The light fittings light fittings in the playroom and in the sanitary areas are encased with protective covers.

**Heating:**  
Oil fuel central heating is in place in the service with heating provided from radiators.

**Ventilation:**

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<p>The proposed playroom is ventilated by openable windows. The sanitary unit proposed for use by the playroom is ventilated by an audible mechanical ventilation system.</p> <p>(d) The playroom and sanitary areas are clean and maintained in a satisfactory condition. The service has an infection control policy in place with cleaning schedules for areas of the service available.</p> <p>(e) The 11 children in proposed playroom are to use a sanitary unit beside the playroom with a toilet and wash hand basin. Warm water controlled under 43 °C and liquid soap is provided at the wash hand basin for handwashing with paper towels available for hand drying purposes. Nappy changing facilities with a changing table, mat, wash hand basin and foot pedal operated nappy disposal bin are available on the ground floor should they be required for the additional children. The proposed new staff are to use the staff sanitary facilities on the ground floor.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>The following requirement has not yet been met:</p> <p>(c) The low-level metal pipes connected to the radiators in the playroom were exposed and potentially accessible by children with the potential risk of an injury to a child.</p> <p>(d) One of the tiles in the suspended ceiling in the playroom was damaged resulting in a hole in the ceiling.</p>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<p>The service advised that:</p> <p>(c) The pipes have been lagged.</p> <p>(d) The tile in the ceiling of the playroom has been replaced.</p>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>The regulatory requirements have now been met.</p>

### 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.
- (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 sessional pre-school service, and
  - 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).

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Adequate clear floor space of 50.3 square metres is provided in the playroom for the proposed additional 11 children.</li><li>(3) The minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear space for each child is available for the proposed 11 children to attend sessional services in the additional playroom.</li><li>(4) The minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear space is available for each of the proposed 11 children where the service provides sessional and full day care/part-time services contemporaneously in the additional playroom.</li></ol>
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