

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015MO114

Name of Service Taugheen Playgroup Limited

Address of Service: Taugheen, Claremorris, Co Mayo, F12F5N7

Email Address: taugheenchildcare@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Louise McIntyre

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

Proposed change: Change in service type from sessional to full day care & Sessional, change of opening hours from 09:20-12:20 to 08:00-15:00, change from 1 staff to 2 staff

Proposed Number of Children: 14

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change from service type to full day care & sessional.
Change from opening hours to 08:00 – 15:00
Change from 1 staff to 2 staff

Registered change: Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day Care & Sessional.
Change in Hours of /Operation from 09:20 – 12:20 to 08:00 – 15:00
Change in Number of Staff from 1 to 2 staff

Date of Inspection:	2	7	0	2	2	0	2	5
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Inspection undertaken by: B Lavin and F Kelly

Title: Early years inspectors

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Year’s Inspectorate,

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TUSLA, Child and Family Agency, 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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day & Sessional Service for 14 children
Date of Registration	28th April 2025

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	Taugheen Playgroup Limited is located within the village of Taugheen a short distance from Claremorris town in County Mayo. and provides sessional childcare service to children aged between 2 - 6 years of age. The service operates weekdays from 09:20 to 12:20 hours.
Premises	The premises is located in a single storey building part of which is dedicated for use as a community centre. The service occupies a section at the rear of the building. There are two playrooms off the entrance hallway with the children's sanitary accommodation located directly off the playroom. The outdoor play facilities for children include an enclosed outdoor play area directly off the entrance hallway to the service and a separate designated section of a large playing field.
Staffing	The service currently operates single-handedly by a manager. A second adult is available when required to provide relief, and a third adult who is located in close proximity for assistance in the event of an emergency if required. The registered service provider is not involved in the day to day operation of the service.
Methodology	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

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	<p>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 Inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider and person in charge 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. 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.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—

(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

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Requirement met:	<p>(1) It is proposed that there will be adequate numbers of staff working directly with the preschool children.</p> <p>The service is registered to cater for 14 children.</p> <p>It is proposed that adequate numbers of adults will be working with the children at all times during service provision.</p>
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Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 20 - Facilities for Rest and Play

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate and suitable play facilities are in place in the two playrooms to cater for children from 2 to 6 years. The playrooms are laid out with a number of defined interest areas. Play resources in playroom 1 included a sand box and
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Requirement met:	<p>(1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that—</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(2) A registered provider—</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(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—</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(b) where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service</p> <p>(4) Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.</p> <p>(5) Where pre-school children attending a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre have access to an outdoor space other than such a space specified in paragraph 4, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable.</p>
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toys for playing in the sand, a farm set with vehicles and animals, a library area and small world play toys.

- Playroom 2 consisted of a range of toys including two work stations and tool boxes with tools, a farm with tractors, machinery, sheds, artificial grass and figurines, a construction area with various sized blocks made from both plastic and wood, a train track with trains, hair dressing equipment, a shop checkout, a doctors set, two library areas, a baby section with dolls buggies, cots etc, a kitchen area with utensils, an art area with easels, paper and pots filled with paint, a water table, jigsaws, puzzles, dolls houses and a car ramp with cars.
- All equipment and materials in the playrooms throughout the service are stored on low level shelving units to facilitate a child led learning environment. Low level tables and chairs were provided both playrooms.

(1)(b)

In each of the playrooms, the children had the opportunity to rest or relax with soft seating in the form of child size couches, matting cushions in designated cosy areas. The service had six stackable beds for any older child attending the service requiring sleep.

(3)(a)

- Suitable secure outdoor play areas were provided for the children in the service
- An enclosed outdoor space was located to the side and rear of the building. The ground cover consisted of tarmacadam. Metal gates separated the play area from the parking area and the front of the community centre. A small shed was used to store some of the outdoor toys.
- Play equipment included a small slide, hopscotch, a playhouse, a rocker and a music wall with pans. This play area was connected by gate to an adjoining designated section of the grass playing field with play equipment including wooden tables, a swing and slide set, a mud kitchen and a gravel pit.

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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.

- It is proposed that healthy snacks, breakfast and a nutritious main meal for the children is provided by the service.
- The staff advised the inspector that water and milk is available in the service and the children are to bring drinks from home in individually identifiable containers.

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:

- There was a buzzer access system into the main entrance front door.
- Safe storage out of reach of children was provided for cleaning products and equipment.
- Secure storage for medication is available in the service.
- The staff only areas, kitchen, storage areas and adult sanitary areas were secure and thereby inaccessible to a pre-school child.
- The toys and equipment in use in the playrooms are in good condition and free from hazard.
- The outdoor area was secured so that children could not leave the area unsupervised and unauthorised person could not enter the area.
- The heating system in the sanitary area was thermostatically controlled to ensure the temperature was maintained between 18°C to 22°C. The room temperature on the day of inspection was 19°C.
- Thermostatically controlled warm water facilitate hand washing without the risk of scalding the children was available to facilitate hygienic hand washing. Water

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	<p>temperature in sink 1 in the sanitary accommodation was 33.6°C, in sink 2 in the sanitary accommodation was 33.7°C and the nappy changing sink 32.7°C.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refrigerators are provided for the storage of perishable food items. Aprons and gloves are provided for use. The outdoor waste storage bins are inaccessible to children in the service.
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The service provided certification that adequate numbers of adults have undertaken the required first aid training to ensure that a person trained in first aid is immediately available to the children at all times.</p> <p>(2) (a) Suitably equipped first aid boxes are available in easily accessible positions in the playrooms</p> <p>(b) The first aid equipment is available at all times to the children attending the service.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) Templates are available for the written recording of any fire drills that take place in the premises.</p>
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(b) Records in writing are available in the service of the number, type and installation record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises. The records show that the firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms/fire detection system were serviced and tested on the 05/02/2025.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire are displayed in conspicuous positions in the playrooms.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

Insurance is in place for a maximum of 22 children at any one time attending full day care service from the 26/03/25 to 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:

- (a) No obvious defects were observed in the building structure.
- (b) The main entrance door at the front of the service was secured with a buzzer system to prevent unauthorised entry to the area and children from leaving unnoticed.
- (c) Lighting:
There is both 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 in the playrooms and in the sanitary areas are encased with protective covers.

Heating:

Oil fuel central heating is in place with heating provided from radiators.

Ventilation:

The playrooms and sleep room are ventilated by openable windows.

Sanitary units are ventilated by openable windows or mechanical ventilation systems.

(d) The playrooms and sanitary areas were clean and maintained in a satisfactory condition. Cleaning schedules were in place in the service.

(e) Sanitary facilities were provided in the service as follows:

Adult sanitary accommodation

One sanitary unit with one toilet and one wash hand basin were provided for the staff.

Child sanitary accommodation

Sanitary units with two toilets and two wash hand basins are provided the service. each care room. The sanitary accommodation also contains a nappy changing unit.

Liquid soap, paper hand towels are provided for hygienic hand washing and drying with foot pedal operated bins provided for the disposal of waste. The hot water temperatures of the taps in all the sanitary units' wash hand basins in the building was recorded below 33.7°C on the day of the inspection.

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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)A summary of the overall floor measurement of each of the 2 playrooms .

Room number	Room size	Age profile of children proposed to attend on Full Day Care or Sessional
Room 1.	32.88 m ²	14 children aged between 2 to 3yrs, or 14 children aged between 3 to 6yrs or 18 children attending ECCE
Room 2	37.203 m ²	16 children aged between 2 to 3yrs. or 16 children aged between 3 to 6yrs. or 20 children attending ECCE.

(2)The minimum space requirement for the different age profiles of the children attending.

Full Day Care Service	
Age Range of children Attending	Clear Floor Space
1-2Years	2.8 square metres.
2 -3 Years	2.35 square metres
3-6 Years	2.3 square metres
Sessional Service	
2 to 6 years	1.818 m ²

The service has adequate space to accommodate the proposed number of children attending on a full day care basis .

The register provider had applied to accommodate 14 children aged between 2 and 6 years of age.