

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015SO057

Name of Service St Molaise Preschool & Afterschool

Address of Service: Community Centre, Grange, Sligo, F91 DH92

Email Address: St.molaisepreschoolafterschool@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Claire Devine, Louise Scanlon

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 20 to 40.
- Addition of a sessional room

Proposed Number of Children: 40 children

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Recommended change to 39 children.
The new sessional room can accommodate up to 19 preschool children on a sessional basis.

Registered change: Change in Number of Children from 20 to 39 children

Date of Inspection: 0 6 0 8 2 0 2 4

Inspection undertaken by: L Costello

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate,
TUSLA Child & Family Agency,
Markievicz House,
Barrack St,
Sligo,
F91 XC84

Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care & Sessional for 39 children
Date of Registration	12th August 2024

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	St Molaise Preschool & Afterschool is a private full day care early years service. The service caters for children aged 2 to 6 years, operating from 8am to 6:15pm Monday to Friday. A school aged service is also provided. The service is located in the village of Grange Co. Sligo and operates from a converted primary school building.
Premises	There is one care room currently, a kitchenette area, an office and sanitary accommodation available for use by the early years' service. An outdoor play area is available to the side and front of the building. It is proposed a second care room will accommodate preschool children on a sessional basis.
Staffing	It is proposed that a total of seven staff will be employed in 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 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>

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Acknowledgements

The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider/person in charge, who was 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:

This requirement has been met:

(1) (a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named person able to deputise as required. On a review of the proposed roster the person in charge or named deputy is available at all times.

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:

This requirement has been met:

(1) On a review of the proposed roster, the registered provider has ensured that there is always an adequate number of staff working with the preschool children. It is proposed that two adults will work with the 16 pre-school children registered for a sessional 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.

(2) A registered provider—

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(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:

This requirement has been met:

(1) (a)

The proposed sessional room is well equipped with suitable and appropriate resources for preschool children. Interest corners are set up to cater for various types of play to stimulate imagination and curiosity. Interest areas include home corners with kitchens and resources, dress up areas, construction areas with building blocks, farms and cars, small world resources and farm animals. Arts and crafts area with access to paints, colours, easels and various sensory materials. There is a variety of table top activities to develop fine motor skills including, tweezers and pins, sucker toys, jigsaws and puzzles.

(1) (b)

A rest area located in the corner of the room with soft furnishings and access to a library stocked with a variety of books to promote language development, allows the preschool child to take a rest or opt out of an activity.

(2) (b)

The outdoor area creates an alternative environment for the preschool child. The area located to the front of the premises has a ground surface of grass and had a variety of resources aimed at developing gross motor skills. These include, climbing frames, tyres and balance beams. Mud kitchens allow for role play. An area to the side which has a ground surface of concrete allows children to ride bikes and play hop scotch.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:	<p>This requirement has been met</p> <p>In the proposed sessional room, all snacks will be provided by home in line with the service healthy eating policy. A fridge located in the proposed room will store the children’s snacks on arrival to the service. A hydration station providing water throughout the day is in the corner of the proposed room.</p> <p>For those children staying on for full day care provision, the service provides a hot meal in line with their healthy eating policy.</p>
-------------------------	---

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:	<p>This requirement has been met:</p> <p>On the day of inspection, the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal doors were appropriately secure where necessary to prevent children from accessing any unsafe area. • External doors were secure to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and people entering unauthorised. • Emergency fire doors were unobstructed. • Window blinds cords were secured to the wall and windows were risk assessed with safety latches as required. • Toys and play equipment were safe for the preschool child, in good condition with no exposed bolts or sharp edges. • All electrical equipment was out of reach of the preschool child. • Waste was inaccessible to the preschool child, with foot pedal operated bins in use throughout the service.
-------------------------	---

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

- The outdoor area was appropriately fenced and secured.

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:

This requirement has been met:

(1)

The registered provider has four adults trained in first aid responder with a renewal date of July 2025, thus ensuring that a suitable trained adult is available to the preschool children as required.

(2) (a) (b)

A suitably stocked first aid box is located in a conspicuous location in the service and available to the preschool child if required.

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:

This requirement has been met:

(1) (a) (b)

The service has taken measures to ensure an appropriate log is in place to record all firefighting equipment in the service and monthly fire drills. The most recent fire maintenance took place on the 04th of December 2023.

(4)

Fire evacuation procedures are clearly displayed, with a child friendly picture format of evacuation procedures in the proposed room.

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:

This requirement has been met:

The registered provider has submitted proof of insurance details to the registration office. 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 providers 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:

This requirement has been met

(a)

On a visual inspection the premises appear to be of a sound and stable structure with the registered provider confirming there is no known deficits.

(b)

The outdoor area is secured with fencing and bolted gates. The main entrance to the service is locked with a bell entry and camera system.

(c)

Lighting is provided by a mix of natural and artificial lighting. Four large florescent lights support the three large windows providing natural light to the proposed care room. Heating is provided by an electrical heating system which is thermostatically controlled.

(d)

The proposed care room and premises is visibly clean with cleaning schedules in place. All equipment appears in good working order and well maintained.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<p>(e)</p> <p>The proposed care room has one designated hand washing basin. The bathroom immediately adjacent to the proposed care room consists of two toilets and two basins dedicated for children’s use. Elsewhere in the premises a further bathroom with two toilets and staff toilet is available.</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.*
- (4) Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—*
- (a) a sessional pre-school service, and*

Requirement met:	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>The registered provider has ensured there is adequate clear floor space available for the preschool child to ensure work play and movement.</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(a) The proposed care room measures a clear floor space of 35.16m² which is suitable for a maximum 19 preschool children attending a sessional preschool service.</p>
-------------------------	--