

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015SO063

Name of Service: Tir na nOg

Address of Service: The Teeling Centre, Collooney, Sligo, F91 P68C

Email Address: tirnanogchildcare@hotmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Terrence King

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

Proposed change: Addition of a sessional session. Change of use of room from school aged to sessional and school aged

Proposed Number of Children: 90 (no change)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change recommended subject to all requirements being met.

Registered change: Addition of a session in a new room

Date of Inspection:	0	1	0	3	2	0	2	4
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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

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 90 Children
Date of Registration	10 th May 2024

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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).

Description of Service	Tir na nOg is a service in operation since 2008 and is governed by a local voluntary management committee- Cherryswan Ltd. The service is registered as a full day care service catering for children aged 0 – 6 years. A school age service is also provided. The service operates weekdays from 8am – 6pm
Premises	The service is situated on the outskirts of Collooney in County Sligo, just off the main N17 road a few kilometres from Sligo town. The two-storey building was purpose designed and is part of the Teeling community complex. There are six playrooms, two sleep rooms, a reception area and a kitchen for preparing meals served on-site.
Staffing	Twenty-three adults in total are employed in the service. This includes a manager, childcare staff, an administration person, a chef and a part-time caretaker.
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 person in charge, who were present on the day of the inspection.

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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.

There is a person in charge and a named person to deputise as required throughout the services operating hours.

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) The registered provider has identified that a minimum of two staff members will be working in the room at all times. There is a total of 22 staff working in the 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—

(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) Adequate and suitable facilities were provided for children to play indoors and outdoors. The care room was bright and spacious and well laid out with a variety of interest areas including home areas resources with a kitchen, utensils and food, children's dining area for role play, dress up area, construction area with tool benches, cars and tracks, arts and crafts, puzzles and tabletop activities.

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	<p>(1) (b) Adequate and suitable rest facilities were available for preschool children to rest during the day if required. An area in the room provided bean bags and soft matting for children to rest throughout the session if they choose.</p> <p>(2) (b) The service has use of a designated outdoor play area. This area is fully enclosed with high level fencing. There is a variety of play materials available for the preschool child including bikes and trikes, mud kitchens, climbing frames, tyres and balance beams.</p>
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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:	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>All food and snacks are provided from home in line with the service healthy eating policy which outlines examples of healthy snacks such as sandwiches, fruit and yoghurt, crackers, and cheese.</p> <p>The proposed room has a fridge to store all perishable items.</p> <p>Portable drinking water is available in the service.</p>
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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.

Requirement met:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External doors were adequately secure to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service. • The entrance door was equipped with a buzz entry system. • Facilities were available for the safe storage of cleaning agents and equipment. • There was provision for the safe disposal of waste including foot operated pedal bins in the sanitary area and care room. • The outdoor area and perimeter was appropriately secure with high level fencing. • Electric flexes and cables are secure to the wall. • Water temperature was recorded within the recommended limits of under 43°C
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<p>Requirement not met:</p>	<p>This requirement was not met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medication was not stored securely in the care room. 2. In the outdoor area mud kitchen, old microwaves and toasters were used for play. This equipment was rusted with splinters posing a risk of injury to a child. 3. The wooden mud kitchen had protruding nails, posing a risk of injury to the preschool child. 4. Wooden stakes were stored in the outdoor area. 5. Paint unsafe for under 3 years of age was stored on low level shelving in the care room.
<p>Response from Provider:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medication has been removed and now stored correctly. Photographic evidence submitted. 2. Microwave has been removed. Photographic evidence submitted. 3. All nails have been secure, and a smooth surface remains. Photographic evidence submitted. 4. Wooden stakes removed. Photographic evidence submitted. 5. Paint moved to a higher shelf out of reach of preschool children under 3 years. Photographic evidence submitted.
<p>Summary Comment:</p>	<p>The requirements taken submitted by the person in charge acting on behalf of the registered provider have been reviewed by the inspectorate. The requirements that were not met found on the inspection in relation to regulation 23 have now ben addressed this regulation is now compliant.</p>

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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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) Certification was available to evidence that the two staff members proposed to work in the care room have been trained in first aid responder with an expiry date of 08/09/2025.

(2) (a)(b). A suitable equipped first aid box was available in the service and available to the preschool children as 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) The person in charge acting on behalf of the registered provider indicated that fire drills will take place monthly within the service and appropriate³ documentation was in place to record them.

(b) There was a record available to indicate the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the service. The last service date was recorded as the 26.02.2024.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed on the walls of the proposed care room.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

Evidence that the service is adequately insured for the proposed change in use of room has been submitted to the registration office.

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) The proposed care room has been adapted for the use as a preschool service and the person in charge confirmed that the premises is of sound and stable structure. On a visual inspection there was no evidence of dampness or cracks in the building.

(b) There was one entrance gate which was appropriately secure with a buzz entry system. The outdoor perimeter was of high-level metal fencing which prevented a child leaving unsupervised or someone entering unauthorised.

(c). The proposed care room had one wall of windows leading out to an enclosed outdoor room. Artificial lighting was provided with fluorescent encased lighting. The service was heated with a provision of radiators and room temperatures on the day were recorded at 18.5°C.

(d) Cleaning schedules were in place in the service. The premises and environment appeared clean and well maintained on the day.

(e) The proposed care room had access to sanitary facilities within the room. Two toilets and two wash hand basins were provided. Mechanical ventilation was provided in these internal rooms. Thermostatically controlled hot and cold water was available in the hand wash basins. A nappy changing facility was also in place if any of the children in attendance were not toilet trained.

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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 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.*

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1) An area of 41.36m² in the proposed care room, provided adequate space for the proposed 14 preschool children.

(2) The minimum amount of clear floor space of 1.818m² is available for 14 children aged 2 years and 8 months to six years in a sessional service.