

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2015TY008
-------------------	-------------

<b>Name of Service</b>	Thurles Targeted Early Intervention Service
------------------------	---

<b>Address of Service:</b>	Slievenamon Road, Thurles, Tipperary, E41AC97
----------------------------	---

<b>Email Address:</b>	barnardosearlyyears@barnardos.ie
-----------------------	----------------------------------

<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Kevin Gregory
-------------------------------------	---------------

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

<b>Proposed change:</b>	Temporarily move from a room downstairs to two rooms upstairs to facilitate building works
-------------------------	--

<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	32 – no change
-------------------------------------	----------------

<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	Allow move to upstairs rooms
---	------------------------------

<b>Registered change:</b>	Temporarily change of service location from downstairs to two rooms upstairs
---------------------------	--

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	1	6	0	5	2	0	2	3
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	L McGeeney
----------------------------------	------------

<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector
---------------	-----------------------

<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Civic Offices, Limerick Road,
	Nenagh,
	Tipperary

<b>Rationale for Inspection:</b>
<b>Proposed Change of Circumstance</b>

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day Care Service for 32 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> June 2023

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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>	<p>This full day care service was established to provide care and education to children aged between 2 and 6 years. The service operates Monday to Thursday, 8.45am – 1.30pm, for 42 weeks of the year.</p> <p>This service is one of eight Barnardos services in Ireland.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The service is operated from rooms in a two-storey, semi-detached building in the town of Thurles. The entire premises is used by a variety of Barnardos services. The early years service uses a room upstairs, two rooms downstairs, a kitchen and sanitary accommodation areas. There is an enclosed outdoor play area at the side of the premises.</p> <p>One of the downstairs rooms (Butterfly room) is currently out of use due to repair works being carried out following water damage. It is proposed that the children who used this room would move to two rooms upstairs while the building works are on-going.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The registered provider does not work in the service. The service manager is the person in charge on a daily basis, supported by a team of six staff who work directly with the children. Other staff in the premises include administration staff, chef and project workers for the variety of services offered by Barnardos.</p>
<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>	<p>The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge and staff who were present on the day of the inspection.</p>

# 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) The service manager was the person in charge and there was a named person who could deputise in her absence.

### 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)—

(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times

#### Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1) It is proposed that the service will continue to operate with adult to child ratios greater than the minimum recommended requirements.

(8) There will be at least two staff present in the service at all times while it is in operation.

### 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 or

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) It is proposed that the children from Butterfly room will move from their room downstairs to two rooms upstairs. The rooms were adjacent to each other. Each room was clean and comfortable and suitable for use by the children. The resources from their room downstairs were deep cleaned, moved upstairs and set up to create a variety of interest areas between the two rooms.</p> <p>The children will continue to have daily access to the outdoor play area downstairs.</p> <p>(b) There was a cosy area for the children to rest and relax in during the day. A sleep room was not required as the service caters for children over the age of 2 years, however, there was a quiet/sensory room downstairs in Ladybird room where children could sleep if required.</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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>The service had a healthy eating policy and employed a chef to prepare and serve the children with healthy meals and snacks throughout the day.</p> <p>There was a weekly menu plan.</p> <p>Drinking water was available to the children throughout the day.</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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p><b>General Safety</b></p>
-------------------------	--

The premises was accessed through a locked gate in the passageway between the premises and the site next door. This gate was controlled by an electronic locking system. There was a bell to ring to contact reception who could see the caller on camera before opening the gate to give access to the site.

There was a second gate between the entrance courtyard and the children's outdoor play area to prevent a child gaining access to the roadway in front of the premises when the front gate was open.

There were two sets of handrails on the stairs, one at standard height for use by staff and one at a lower level for use by children when using the stairs.

There was a lift available for anyone who could not use the stairs to travel from the ground floor to the first floor.

There was restricted opening on the windows of the upstairs rooms to prevent a child climbing out of the window.

Hot water for handwashing was thermostatically controlled not to exceed 43°C.

**Infection Control**

There was a sink unit in one of the two upstairs rooms where the children could wash their hands if required. There were also hand washing sinks in the sanitary accommodation areas along the corridor from the proposed rooms.

The service had policies and procedures regarding infection prevention and control, cleaning and hand washing.

The two proposed rooms were maintained in a clean and hygienic condition.

**Fire Safety**

Fire escape route were kept clear of obstruction.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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:

- (1) Staff held up to date certification in first aid response (FAR).
- (2)(a) Well stocked first aid boxes were available in each room.
- (b) The first aid boxes were available if required by a child attending the service.

### 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 firefighting 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) There was a written record of the monthly fire drills that took place in the service.
- (b) There was a written record of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the service. Firefighting equipment and smoke alarms were serviced on an annual basis.
- (4) There was a notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire displayed on the walls in the service.

# 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 had current insurance valid until 1 April 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:

This requirement has been met.

(a) The premises appeared to be of sound and stable structure. An area that had been affected by water damage was under repair and inaccessible to the children.

(b) The service was safe and secure. Access to the premises was managed by service staff. Unauthorised access was prevented by the metal gates with electronic locking system at the side of the premises.

(c) The rooms, sanitary accommodation areas, stairwell and corridors were well lit with natural light supplemented by artificial light. Internal rooms such as the nappy changing area and some of the sanitary accommodation areas were lit by artificial light and ventilated by mechanical ventilation.

The activity rooms had openable windows for natural ventilation. The premises was heated by radiators in each room, heated by an oil-fired central heating system.

(d) The service was maintained in a clean and hygienic condition. The walls of the proposed new rooms were painted and in good condition. Toys and equipment were deep cleaned this week to prepare it to be moved from downstairs to the upstairs room.

(e) The children will have access to both upstairs and downstairs sanitary accommodation areas.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<p>There were four toilets and wash hand basins which was sufficient provision for the number of toilet trained children who attended the service. There were two nappy changing stations in the sanitary accommodation area downstairs for children who were not yet toilet trained. There was a staff toilet and wash-hand basin for the staff in the early years service, which was sufficient provision for up to eight staff at any one time.</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*

*(b) 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).*

#### Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1) The clear floor space available in the two upstairs rooms was: 18.35m<sup>2</sup> and 14.55m<sup>2</sup>.

(4) The room are proposed to be used by children aged between 3 and 4 years. There was sufficient space in the first room for up to 10 children attending on a sessional basis or 8 children on a part-time or full day care basis.

There was sufficient space in the second room for up to 8 children attending on a sessional basis or up to 6 children on a part-time or full day care basis. Therefore, there was sufficient space between both rooms to accommodate the 12 children who have been displaced by the building works occurring in Butterfly room downstairs.