

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015TY099

Name of Service Clonea Rathgormack Community Playgroup

Address of Service: C/O Clonea Power N.S, Clonea Power, Co. Waterford.

Email Address: clonearathgormackplaygroup@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Amy Kilcline Walsh, Niamh Swan

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input 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 Address: From C/O Clonea Power GAA Clubhouse, Clonea Power, Carrick-on-Suir, Waterford, E32 V295 to C/O Clonea Power N.S, Clonea Power, Co. Waterford
Proposed Number of Children:	22
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Change of Service Address
Registered change:	Change of Service Address

Date of Inspection:	1	5	0	8	2	0	2	3
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Inspection undertaken by: E Cullen
Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla Child and Family Agency, Ferryhouse, Clonmel, Tipperary.

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Sessional Service 22 Children
Date of Registration	25 th August 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).

Description of Service	<p>The early years service provides sessional care and education for children aged 2 to 6 years of age. The service operates 38 weeks per year, Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 12:00pm. The play group has been in operation for over 30 years and is managed by a voluntary committee.</p>
Premises	<p>The service is proposing to move premises to Clonea Power National School in the village of Clonea Power, Co. Waterford. The service will occupy a classroom within the national school building which will be for sole use of the early yeas service. The premises consists of an early years room, and sanitary accommodation. The shared outdoor play area consists of grassed playing pitches and concrete spaces to the front and side of the premises.</p>
Staffing	<p>There are currently three staff members working directly with children in the service. The manager is the designated person in charge. The registered providers do not work directly in the service. Staff members hold qualifications in Early Childhood Education and Care at Level 5, 6, and 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications.</p>
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</p>

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the 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:

The service manager is the designated person in charge and a named deputy is also currently employed.

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 registered provider is familiar with the Child Care Act 1991 (early years services) Regulations 2016, Schedule 6 Staff: Child ratios and will ensure that there are adequate numbers of staff working directly with the children attending the service. The service currently employs three staff members.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 20 - Facilities for Rest and Play

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(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:

(1)(a) The service comprises of a large early years room that is well laid out and resourced. The furniture and equipment have been used to create well defined interest areas with ample space in each area for children to play, explore and work together in pairs and small groups. Interest areas included: a cosy library area, role play area, construction area, sensory messy play area and creative areas.

(b) There is a designated area with wipeable couches and large cushions within the room, where children can rest and relax during the session.

(2)(a) The service has shared use of a concrete play area to the front of the premises, and grass play areas to the side and rear of the premises. A rota is in place with the school management to ensure children attending the proposed service have access to outdoor play daily.

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

Requirement met:	The service has an adequate healthy eating policy which is shared with parents and guardians via email at the beginning of the school year. All food and drink are supplied by parents and guardians daily. There is a refrigerator available within the classroom for storage of perishable food items. The service has an additional supply of food for use when required. Drinkable water is also available onsite.
-------------------------	--

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>General Safety:</p> <p>The entrance door to the service will be secured while children are in attendance to ensure no unauthorised persons can gain access or children cannot exit unsupervised. The external play areas are secured with a fencing and concrete wall. Risk assessments are in place to ensure appropriate supervision in the outdoor area. High level storage units have been identified for storage of hazardous materials such as cleaning products out of reach of children.</p> <p>Infection control:</p> <p>The service has an infection prevention and control policy in place. Warm water, liquid soap and paper hand towels were available to support hygienic handwashing. Water is thermostatically controlled to ensure the temperature is maintained below 43°C.</p> <p>The service, materials and equipment were well maintained and clean. There was a cleaning schedule in place which detailed the frequency and method of cleaning of toys, equipment, fixtures, fittings, and surfaces.</p>
-------------------------	---

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 25 – First Aid

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

- (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>(1) Three staff members are currently trained in first aid for children and will be present on the premises at all times.</p> <p>(2)(a)(b) A suitable and fully equipped first aid box was available on the premises and stored in an easily accessed cupboard in the room.</p>
-------------------------	--

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:	<p>(1)(a) Records were available on the premises for recording of fire drills and the registered provider was familiar with the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills.</p> <p>(b) Firefighting equipment and smoke alarms were present, and national school have existing contracts in place for the regular service and maintenance of same.</p> <p>(4) A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the classroom and the fire assembly point had been identified to the front of the building.</p>
-------------------------	--

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Requirement met:	An insurance certificate was available, with covers for children attending on a sessional basis. Insurance cover will commence 21 August 2023 and will expire 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:	<p>(a) The premises is a single storey building. The designated person in charge confirmed that they were not aware of any structural defects.</p> <p>(b) The premises was safe and secure. The access points were kept secured to prevent unauthorised access. The outdoor area was enclosed and gated. Access to the premises were via a securely locked door.</p> <p>(c) The room was well lit by natural light through windows on two sides of the classroom. The windows were openable to allow for natural ventilation. Lighting was supplemented by artificial light. The building occupied by the early years service is heated by an oil heating system.</p> <p>(d) The room, fixtures and fittings appeared to be clean, well maintained and in a good state of repair. There were cleaning schedules in place for the service.</p> <p>(e) The service had three toilet cubicles and two wash hand basins, available in the corridor off the classroom for the sole use of early years children. An additional cubicle with a toilet and wash hand basin was assigned for staff use within the school building. This was sufficient accommodation for the children attending the service and the staff</p>
-------------------------	--

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

members. It is intended that children who attend the service are toilet trained or almost toilet trained when they start in the service.

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.

Requirement met:

(1) The room measured 59.6m² which is adequate space for the proposed 22 children aged 2 to 6 years to attend the service on a sessional basis.

(3) There is sufficient clear floor space for up to 22 children to attend on a sessional basis.