

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015TY108

Name of Service Foundations Playschool and Afterschool

Address of Service: Room 2, Sisters of Charity National School, Mary Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

Email Address: foundationsplayschoolclonmel@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Edel Meehan

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

Proposed change: Change in Service Type from Part Time to Full Day Care
Change of Hours of Operation to 7.30am to 6.00pm

Proposed Number of Children: 27 (No Change)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: All changes to be approved.
Maximum capacity of 16 Full Day Care Children at any one time.

Registered change: Change in Service Type from Part Time to Full Day Care
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Date of Inspection:	1	1	0	6	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by: C. Ryan

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspector, Tusla Child and Family Agency, Ely Hospital, Ferrybank, Wexford

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 27 Children (Max. 16 Full Day Care)

Date of Registration 2nd July 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	Foundations Playschool and Afterschool service currently provides sessional and part time care to children aged between 2 and 6 years of age. The registered provider proposes to change from part time to full daycare to accommodate the needs of the families and children attending the service who require additional childcare hours.
Premises	The service operates from a designated room in the Sisters of Charity National School. The service has their own toilets adjacent to the room. The children have access to the school's outdoor grounds, which include concrete playground, grassy play areas, a sheltered outdoor room and planting areas.
Staffing	There are currently four staff working directly with the children in the service. The registered provider is the designated person in charge and there is a second named staff member available to deputise as required.
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 registered provider staff and children 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:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

The registered provider is the daily designated person in charge. There is a second named staff member employed who will be available to deputise as required.

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 requirement of the regulation is 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 always adequate numbers of staff working directly with the children attending 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.

(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

(b) where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service

Requirement met:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

(1)(a)

The playroom provides sufficient space for the children to play. The room was warm, clean and lit by natural light. The room was set up and equipped with toys and

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materials suitable to the ages and stage of development of the children using the room.

(1)(b)

Provisions are in place for children to rest and sleep while attending the service. The registered provider has sleep mattresses and bed linen available to the children who require sleep.

(3)(a)(b)

The outdoor play area consists of a variety of spaces enclosed to the rear of the school, including grassy play area, all weather surface and concreted playground. There is a small covered sheltered area and planting areas.

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 of the regulation is met.

The service has a food guidelines policy that is supplied to parents. Parents currently supply all the snacks for the children attending as part time. The parents will be asked to supply additional food for their children attending on a full daycare. All foods/ lunchboxes will be stored in fridges in the playroom. The service will reheat any hot food supplied for the children. The registered provider will engage directly with the Environment Health Office (EHO) to ensure food safety standards and their practices are suitable.

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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:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

Infection control:

Warm water for hygienic hand washing is available and thermostatically controlled not to exceed 43°C. The playroom was clean and well maintained, with cleaning schedules ready.

Administration of medication:

There is a policy on the safe administration of medications to children attending the service. Parents are requested to administer medication at home where possible and adherence of sickness exclusion policy is enforced.

General safety:

The front entrance to the school is secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining access to the building. The playroom door is secured. The parents have a designated drop off and collection point for their children in the school hall, where they are met by the staff. Blind cords are secured to the wall.

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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:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

(1)

Documented evidence was available to demonstrate that staff were currently trained in FAR first aid for children and will be present on the premises.

(2)(a)(b)

A suitable and equipped first aid box is available on the premises and stored in an easily accessible place for staff.

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:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

(1)(a)

Record sheets are available on the premises for recording of fire drills and the registered provider is familiar with the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills.

(b)

Fire-fighting equipment and smoke alarms are present and contracts are in place for the regular service and maintenance of same.

(4)

A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the preschool rooms and the fire assembly point is clearly identified.

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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:

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection.

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:

The requirement has been met.

- (a) The registered provider stated that the premises appear to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) The front door entrance to the service is safe and secured.
- (c) The playroom is lit and ventilated by natural light through openable windows on external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. All sanitary accommodation has natural ventilation. The service is heated by oil heating.
- (d) The playroom was clean, well maintained and in good repair.
- (e) The service has adequate sanitary accommodation for number of children and staff who will be present with toilets and separate staff toilets available. There are four toilets available for the children and one staff toilet on the premises.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

(1) There is adequate space available to the children. The playroom has sufficient space to accommodate the number of children attending. Room two measures at 48.9 sq. meters.

(2) There was adequate floor space available to the children to play and move freely in the room.