

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015TY145

Name of Service Spraoi Playschool

Address of Service: Reddanswalk, Dundrum Road, Tipperary Town, Tipperary, E34 PY01

Email Address: comerfordfamily@yahoo.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Anne Comerford

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

Proposed change: Adding an additional Service type: From Sessional to Sessional & Childminding.

Proposed Number of Children: No change

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Approval for additional service type

Registered change: Adding an additional service type from Sessional to Sessional and Childminding

Date of Inspection: 1 7 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: Registered Sessional and Childminding Service for 22 Children (Max 5 childminding)

Date of Registration 29th 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	This privately owned service is operated from a premises in the registered provider's own home. A sessional early years care and education scheme (ECCE) is currently offered to children 2 to 6 years of age. The service is open from 09:00 to 12:30 daily, Monday to Friday for 38 weeks per year. The registered provider proposes to operate a child-minding service from 12:30 – 14:00 daily.
Premises	The service consists of a large early years room, children's sanitary accommodation, a staff toilet and two large outdoor areas for the exclusive use of the early years children attending the service.
Staffing	The registered provider works directly with the children and employs two staff members during the sessional hours. All staff working directly with the early years children held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework. The registered provider proposes to operate the childminding service singlehanded.
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 registered provider 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 registered provider is the designated person in charge. There is a named deputy currently employed for the hours of operation of the existing sessional service.

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)—

(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and

Requirement met:

(1) 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.

(8)(b) As the registered provider proposes to operate a childminding service from 12:30 onwards, an emergency contact person who is familiar with the service has been identified. This person is within a five-minute drive of 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*

Requirement met:

- (1)(a) The service comprises of a two interconnecting early years rooms located off the registered providers private residence, which are 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 are two designated areas with wipeable couches and large cushions within the room, where children can rest and relax during the session. Low-level beds and bed linen are available for children who may require sleep during the day.
- (3)(a) The service has two outdoor play areas to the side and rear of the building. Both are well designed and resourced with a range of natural materials. Children have access to all weather and natural play spaces. A section of the outdoor area is partially covered to ensure children can access a sheltered outdoor space.

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:

The service has an adequate healthy eating policy which is shared with parents and guardians. 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:

General Safety:

The entrance door to the service is secured with a keypad and buzzer system 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 mature boundary. High level storage units have been identified for storage of hazardous materials such as cleaning products out of reach of children.

Infection control:

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.

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) The registered provider is currently trained in first aid for children and will be present on the premises at all times.
- (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.

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:

- (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.
- (b) Firefighting equipment and smoke alarms were present, and the registered provider has contracts 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 classroom and the fire assembly point had been identified to the side of the building.

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:

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:

- (a) The section of the premises occupied by the early service is a single storey extension to the rear of the registered provider’s home. The registered provider confirmed that they were not aware of any structural defects.
- (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 secure door.
- (c) The room was well lit by natural light. The windows were openable to allow for natural ventilation. Lighting was supplemented by artificial light. The building is heated by an oil heating system.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<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 two toilet cubicles and two wash hand basins, available in the entrance lobby. An additional cubicle with a toilet and wash hand basin was assigned for staff use within the registered provider's home. This was sufficient accommodation for the children attending the service and the staff members. It is intended that children who attend the service are toilet trained or almost toilet trained when they start in the service.</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.

(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:	<p>(1) The room measured 46.8m² which is adequate space for the 22 children aged 2 to 6 years currently attending the service on a sessional basis and the proposed childminding service.</p> <p>(3) There is sufficient clear floor space for up to 22 children to attend on a sessional basis.</p>
-------------------------	---