

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015TY159

Name of Service Tus Maith Child Development Centre, Brothers of Charity Southeast Services

Address of Service: Newtown, Solohead, Tipperary, E34EF66

Email Address: Catriona.mcgrath@bocsi.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Jeannette McLoughlin

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

Proposed change: Change of service address
Change in Service Type
Change in hours of operation

Proposed Number of Children: 7 (no change)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change of service address, service type and hours of operation to be approved.

Registered change: Change of service address: From The Excel Centre, Carronreddy, Tipperary to Newtown, Solohead, Tipperary E34EF66.
Change in Service Type: From Full Day Care to Sessional/Part-Time.
Change in hours of operation: From 8:45am to 4:30pm to 9:00am to 1:00pm & 1:30pm to 4:45pm

Date of Inspection: 1 3 0 4 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.

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Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part Time / Sessional Service for 7 Children
Date of Registration	11 th May 2023

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 community service was established in 2016 and proposes to offer part time and sessional education and care to children aged 2 to 6 years of age. The service proposes to operate two sessions 9:00am to 1:00pm and 1:30pm to 4:45pm. Services are provided for children with complex needs.
Premises	The proposed premises is a detached single storey building, formerly used as a primary school. The building has been extensively refurbished for the purpose of early years care and education. The premises consists of one main classroom, a gross motor/mobility classroom, speech and language classroom, sensory room, outdoor play area, sanitary accommodation and staff room.
Staffing	There are currently 4 staff employed to work with children daily. The project team leader is onsite two days per week. The registered provider does not work directly in the service.
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</p>

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	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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment	
<i>(1) A registered provider shall ensure that—</i>	
<i>(a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement of the regulation is met: (1)(a) The team leader is the designated person in charge and named deputy designated persons in charge are available to deputise when required.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels	
<i>(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.</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement of the regulation is met: (1) The registered provider is familiar with the Child Care Act 1991(Early Years Services) Regulations 2016, Schedule 6 Staff: Child ratios.

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.*
- (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:

(1)(a) The service comprises of a main home classroom which was well laid out and resourced. The furniture and equipment had been used to create well defined interest areas and learning stations with ample space in each area for children to play, explore and work together. Additional classrooms are used for the specific learning goals such as the speech and language/oral motor room. The gross motor/mobility room has a range of soft play equipment and specialist equipment. The sensory room was well designed to meet the varying sensory needs of children attending the service.

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	<p>(b) There was a cosy rest area within the room, which children can rest and relax during the session. Low-level beds were available if a child required sleep and children’s sleep can be accommodated in one of the auxiliary classroom spaces.</p> <p>(2)(b) The service has a dedicated outdoor space accessible from the main entrance to the building. It is safe and secure with a gate and concrete and timber fencing. A concrete and soft fall surface provides opportunity for play with wheeled toys, swing, playhouse and rocker.</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>The requirement of the regulation is met:</p> <p>All food and drink is supplied by parents and guardians daily. There is a refrigerator available on the premises for storage of perishable food items. Drinkable water is also available onsite.</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:

The requirement of the regulation is met:

General safety:

A keypad and intercom entry system is in place at the entrance to the service to prevent children leaving unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises. High level handles are present on all doors to ensure the safety of all children. All cleaning agents and hazardous materials were stored inaccessible to children.

Infection control:

The service has an infection prevention and control policy in place. Temperature checks are completed daily by children, staff and visitors on arrival. Warm water, liquid soap, paper hand towels and hand dryers were available to support hygienic handwashing.

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.

Administration of medication:

The service had a policy for the safe administration of medication. An area was identified for the safe storage of medication. There were medication consent forms or Kardex for parental consent in the event that staff were required to administer medication to a child in the service. Care plans were in place to support children with complex needs.

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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) There are staff trained in first aid for children immediately available to the children attending the early years service.

(2)(a)(b) There is a suitably equipped first aid box stored in an easily accessible position on the premises and was available to the children attending the early years service.

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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:

The requirement of the regulation is met:

(1)(a) Records are available on the premises for recording of fire drills and staff were familiar with the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills.

(b) Firefighting equipment and smoke alarms were 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 each classroom and the fire assembly point was clearly identified.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirement of the regulation is met:

Appropriate insurance is in place, under a General Indemnity Scheme.

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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 of the regulation is met:

- (a) The premises was a recently refurbished single storey building which appeared to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) The premises was safe and secure. The main access point at the front door was kept secured to prevent unauthorised access through the use of an intercom and keypad entry system. The outdoor play area was secured with a timber fence and locked gate.
- (c) The rooms were well lit by natural light through large openable windows and supplemented by artificial light. The building was heated by an oil system with wall mounted radiators in the rooms and sanitary accommodation areas.
- (d) The room, fixtures and fittings appeared to be clean, well maintained and in a good state of repair. There was a cleaning schedule for the service.
- (e) The children’s sanitary accommodation area was accessible in the lobby off the classrooms. There were two toilets, nappy changing unit and two wash hand basins. A separate staff toilet was also available. Hot water was thermostatically controlled to ensure it was maintained under 43C.

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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.
- (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:

The requirement of the regulation is met:

- (1) The proposed rooms have adequate space for the proposed numbers of children aged 2 to 6 years to attend the service on a sessional or part time basis.

Room	Space available
Main Classroom	37.94 m ²
Gross motor/Physiotherapy room	30.04 m ²
Speech and Language/Oral motor room	17.06 m ²
Sensory room	13.47 m ²

- (2) There is sufficient clear floor space for the number of children who attend on a part-time basis.

- (3) There is sufficient clear floor space for the number of children who attend the service on a sessional basis.