

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D:** TU2015WH039

**Name of Service** Greenpark Montessori

**Address of Service:** 128A Greenpark Meadows, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

**Email Address:** greenparkmontessori@hotmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Mary Stenson

<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sessional</b>	<input checked="" 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>	9 children to attend the service in an additional room.
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	20
<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	9 children to attend the service in an additional room, total of 20 children in the service at any one time.
<b>Registered change:</b>	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 11 to 20 Change in number of staff from 2 to 3

**Date of Inspection:** 2 1 0 8 2 0 2 3

**Inspection undertaken by:** C O' Connor Hughes  
**Title:** Early Years Inspector

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Early Years Inspectorate, SAP office, St Loman's Campus,  
Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

### Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Sessional Service for 20 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2023

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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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	<p>The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme. The age range of children currently enrolled in the service is 2 to 6 years.</p> <p>The service operates between the hours of 08:45 to 11:45 and 12:15 to 15:15 on a Monday to Friday basis.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The current service consists of a pre-school room and sanitary accommodation attached to the registered provider's home. The additional separate room proposed is a new purpose-built ecofriendly unit consisting of one pre-school room and one toilet cubicle with a wash hand basin. There is an outdoor play area adjacent to the premises.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>Three staff are to be employed in the service including the registered provider.</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 co-operation of the registered provider who was present on the day of the inspection.</p>

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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 was met.

(1)(a)

The proposed pre-school service has a named designated person in charge and deputy person in charge.

### 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 was met.

Three adults including the registered provider employed in the service will work with the proposed nine children to ensure the correct adult:child ratio is maintained at all times.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

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### 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.
- (4) Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement was met.</p> <p>(1)(a) Low level tables and chairs were noted in the pre-school room. Some play materials were accessible on low level shelving.</p> <p>(1)(b) A suitable rest facility was available in the pre-school room.</p> <p>(4) The outdoor play area was safe and secure surrounded by a high-level fence. Age and stage appropriate toys and equipment were available stored in a shed.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>The requirement was not met.</p> <p>(1)(a) Interest areas required to be expanded in the pre-school room to allow for imaginative, sensory and creative play.</p>

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	<p>(4)</p> <p>The outdoor play area required removal of old toys and equipment. The registered provider stated a new ground surface area and areas of interest for outdoor play activities are to put in place.</p>
<p><b>Response from Provider:</b></p>	<p>(1)(a)</p> <p>An imaginary area for children, dress up area and assortment of toys are now in place.</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>The old toys and equipment have been removed. A small ground surface area has been replaced with coloured stones. We now have fine gross motor areas along with gross motor areas for the child's physical needs. We also have a sensory area and water area. There is a picnic area for snack time.</p>
<p><b>Summary Comment:</b></p>	<p>The requirement was met.</p>

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## 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 requirement was met.

The registered provider stated the parents will provide sufficient and healthy snacks for the proposed children attending the service.

A fridge is available for the storage of perishable goods in the pre-school room.

### 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 was met.

The emergency exit doors are unobstructed.

A fire assembly point is in place to the front of the service.

Keys to the main door are secure and out of reach of children.

Refuse bins are inaccessible to children in the outdoor play area.

Electric cables are tied and inaccessible to children.

#### Requirement not met:

The requirement was not met.

Visibility strips were not in place on the doors and windows in the service.

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<b>Response from Provider:</b>	Visibility strips have been placed on the doors and windows.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	The requirement was met.

### 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.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement was met.</p> <p>(1) The registered provider and two staff members are qualified in first aid response (FAR) training.</p> <p>(2)(a) A first aid box is located in a conspicuous position in the pre-school room.</p> <p>(b) A first aid box is available to children in the service.</p>
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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 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 was met.

(1)(a)

A fire register is available for monthly fire drills to be conducted in the pre-school service.

(b)

Maintenance records were available for both the smoke alarms and firefighting equipment and dated August 2023.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in a conspicuous position in the service.

### 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 with an expiry date of 28 March 2024. 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.

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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 was met.

(a)

The premises visually appeared to be of sound and stable structure.

(b)

The main entrance is secure to ensure the children’s safety within the service.

(c)

Two electric heaters are the source of heating in the pre-school room. A service record was submitted to the Early Years Inspector dated 21 August 2023.

The environmental temperature was recorded at 20.1 degrees Celsius in the proposed pre-school room.

Natural lighting is available via the patio style doors and two windows supplemented by adequate artificial lighting in the pre-school room.

Two small open top windows are available in the pre-school room and one openable window is in place in the sanitary accommodation for natural ventilation.

The service is connected to the public water and drainage systems.

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	<p>(d)</p> <p>The floors and the walls are in a good state of repair and maintenance. A cleaning schedule was available for the service.</p> <p>A contractor for the collection of refuse bins has been engaged by the service to collect refuse from the premises on a scheduled basis.</p> <p>Pest control records were submitted to the Early Years Inspector dated 21 August 2023.</p> <p>(e)</p> <p>One toilet and one wash hand basin are available in the sanitary accommodation. The temperature recorded at the wash hand basin was 38.5 degrees Celsius.</p> <p>A second sink was available in the pre-school room.</p> <p>A staff toilet and a wash hand basin are available for use by staff members in the home of the registered provider.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>The requirement was not met.</p> <p>A wall mounted hand towel dispenser and liquid soap was not in place in the sanitary accommodation.</p>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<p>The wall mounted hand towel dispenser and liquid soap is in place.</p>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>The requirement was met.</p>

### Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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:

The requirement was met.

(1)

Adequate clear floor space was available to provide the children with an environment to work, play and move freely on a sessional basis.

(3)

The recorded measurements of approximately 17m<sup>2</sup> indicated there is adequate space at 1.818 m<sup>2</sup> for the proposed 9 children to attend the service.