

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015WW117

Name of Service Kids Aloud

Address of Service: 16 Parkmore, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow W91 RY20

Email Address: kidsaloud@eircom.net

Name of Registered Provider: Liam MacGabhann

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

Proposed changes:	Increase number of children from 20 to 31. Change from sessional to sessional and parttime.
Proposed Number of Children:	31
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Part time service for 31 children.
Registered change:	Change in number of children to be accommodated from 20 to 31. Change in Service Type from Sessional to Part Time & Sessional.

Date of Inspection:	2	3	0	8	2	0	2	3
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Inspection undertaken by: H. Bourke
Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla Child and Family Agency, First Floor Trinity Building
IDA Business Park, Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

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 31 Children
Date of Registration	31 st August 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).

Description of Service	<p>This service is a community based, non-profit sessional pre-school. The pre-school first opened in 2009. The service is registered to provide care and education for children aged between two years and six years of age. The service also operates a breakfast club and after school care for school aged children. The hours of operation are from 09.00am to 12.00pm Monday to Friday and the service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme for 38 weeks of the year.</p>
Premises	<p>The service is located on the ground floor of an adapted two storey house in Baltinglass Co. Wicklow. A secure outdoor play area is located to the rear of the pre-school and parking is available outside the service.</p>
Staffing	<p>The registered provider is the chairperson of the committee who does not work directly with the children and has appointed a designated person to manage the pre-school service. There are currently two full time staff members working in the service, and the manager is supernumerary. All current staff members including the manager have a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Framework of Qualifications. There are two additional staff members who are employed under the Access and Inclusion Model (AIMS) for 38 weeks of the year.</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</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 person in charge and the deputy manager 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 has been met.

(1)(a)

The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy.

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 has been met.

(1)

The service proposes to accommodate 31 children on a sessional and parttime basis in two care rooms with an adequate number of adults working directly with the children at all times. There will be five staff members employed in 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.

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(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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

The service comprises of two care rooms, Senior ECCE and Junior ECCE. The rooms are bright and spacious and well laid out to cater for the age range of children who will be attending in each room.

(b)

There are six stackable beds at present. Additional beds will be purchased if required. These beds have been provided for children over two years of age. Suitable rest areas have also been provided in each care room.

(3)(a)

The outdoor space consists of a large mixed surface area. There were no ponds, pits or other hazards observed in the outdoor area. There was an assortment of suitable toys available for all proposed age groups attending the pre-school.

The outdoor area was found to be suitable, safe and secure.

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 has been met.

Parents will be requested to provide all snacks and lunches for their child attending on a sessional and parttime basis. All snacks and lunches must be in line with the healthy eating policy of the service. Refrigerated storage facilities are available for perishable lunches. The staff will heat food required for children availing of the parttime service.

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	<p>Potable water is available for children.</p> <p>If a child requires additional food the onsite kitchen will provide a healthy snack as needed.</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.

<p>Requirement met:</p>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The manager stated the front door and second entrance door are locked at all times, ensuring children cannot leave the service unsupervised and unauthorised access to the service cannot occur. • The emergency exit doors were unobstructed. • Storage is available for children’s belongings. • Cleaning materials and equipment are locked in a utility cupboard in the service. • The kitchen is inaccessible to children. • A fridge is available in the kitchen for the storage of food. • Hand sanitising stations were positioned at the front door, second entrance door, in the hallway and at strategic points around the pre-school. • A cleaning schedule for toys and equipment was available, as well as cleaning schedules of the pre-school rooms and sanitary areas. • The sanitary accommodations were well stocked with a sufficient supply of liquid soap and paper hand towel. The water temperature was recorded at 36.2°C. Foot pedal bins were available in all sanitary areas, for the safe disposal of used paper towels. • The pre-school rooms and sanitary accommodations were ventilated by openable windows and mechanical ventilation.
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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 has been met.

(1)

All staff members have a current certification in first aid for children.

(2)(a)

A suitably equipped first aid box was available in each care room. They were clearly identifiable and readily accessible.

(b)

The first aid boxes will always be available to the children attending the pre-school service.

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 has been met.

(1)(a)

The manager has indicated that fire drills will continue to be carried out in both pre-school rooms.

(b)

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	<p>There was a record available relating to the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the servicing of the fire detection and alarm system dated April 2023.</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were displayed in both pre-school rooms and throughout the premises. The fire assembly point was identified.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>An insurance quotation was submitted to the registration team prior to this inspection.</p> <p>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.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>The pre-school is located on ground floor of a domestic dwelling that has been adapted to accommodate the service.</p> <p>(b)</p>
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There are two points of entry to the service, the first is through the main door that leads to the Junior ECCE room and the second is at the side of the building and leads into the Senior ECCE room. These doors are monitored by both the manager and staff members and can be locked with a key from the inside.

The outdoor area is secured with a high brick wall and there is a locked gate at the point of entry to the outdoor area to prevent a child leaving unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.

(c)

The premises benefits from natural light via windows in both pre-school rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from covered fluorescent ceiling lights in the room. There is an oil-fired central heating system in place which was last serviced in August 2022. Windows in the pre-school rooms can be opened but have restrictors in place and there is a combination of mechanical and natural ventilation in the sanitary areas.

(d)

A cleaning schedule was in place in both pre-school rooms. The premises and surrounding environment were clean and well maintained.

(e)

The sanitary accommodation is located within the Senior ECCE room and adjacent to the Junior ECCE room. Both sanitary areas consist of two separate toilets, two wash hand basins. A separate toilet and wash hand basin is located on the ground floor for adults and allows for disability access. The disability access facility also includes a nappy changing unit. Thermostatically controlled hot water was available in the children's sanitary areas and the temperature of the water was 36.2°C.

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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.*
- (4) *Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—*
- (a) *a sessional pre-school service, and*
 - (b) *a full day care service or a part-time day care service, or both, the minimum clear floor space applicable for the duration of the sessional preschool service in respect of the children attending that service shall be the floor space specified in paragraph (3).*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of the number of children proposing to attend the service as demonstrated below:

(2)

Senior ECCE The clear floor space in this room measured 43.35 square metres.

Junior ECCE The clear floor space in this room measured 28.48 square metres.

There is sufficient space in the service to cater for the proposed 31 pre-school children on a sessional or parttime basis in the proposed age ranges.

(4)(a)(b)

There is adequate floor space to accommodate the numbers proposed.