

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015WX010

Name of Service Ballymurn Montessori

Address of Service: Ballynabrigadane, Ballymurn, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford

Email Address: adelialamba@hotmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Adelia Lamba

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change:	Change in Age Profile from 2-6 years to 1-6 years
Proposed Number of Children:	55
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Change in Age Profile from 2-6 years to 1-6 years
Registered change:	Change in Age Profile from 2-6 years to 1-6 years

Date of Inspection:	0	7	1	0	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by: E Mc Garry
Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, 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, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 55 children
Date of Registration	11 th October 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	<p>Ballymurn Montessori Ltd. is a privately operated childcare service located in the rural village of Ballymurn, in county Wexford. The service currently provides a preschool service to children aged 2 to 6 years of age and operates for 38 weeks a year. The service offers a Montessori based curriculum. The registered provider proposes to change the age profile in the service to cater for children aged from 1 to 6 years of age. The provider proposes to cater for the younger children in the existing toddler room situated on the right-hand side of the main hallway.</p>
Premises	<p>The service operates from a building to the side of the provider's home and consists of three playrooms, sanitary accommodation, a kitchen and an office. There is extensive outdoor garden play areas were available to the front and rear of the property.</p>
Staffing	<p>There are three staff employed in the service. The registered provider is the designated person in charge and is in the service daily on the premises.</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 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>

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Acknowledgements	The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider who was 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. The service has designated person in charge and a named deputy.
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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 registered provider proposes to continue to employ the same staff members to work directly with the children during the hours of operation of the service. The registered provider proposes to employ additional staff if required to maintain adult child ratios in the service.
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met. The provider proposes to care for the proposed younger children in the existing toddler room.</p> <p>(1)(a)</p> <p>The proposed preschool room is appropriately resourced to provide for the play and stimulation of the preschool children. There are toys and play equipment on display in the room. There are mirrors on low levels for children to see themselves and a large plastic ball pool for them to play in. There is a secure decking area accessed directly from double doors in the room. The area is safe, suitable and secure.</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>There is a rest area provided in the preschool room consisting of soft cushions. There is a designated sleep room in the service which can be accessed directly from the proposed room. There are currently three full sized cots and three floor beds available in the service for children who need to sleep. There is adequate sleep facilities provided to cater for children aged from 1 to 2 years to attend the service.</p> <p>(3)(a)</p> <p>The outdoor area proposed for the younger children is accessed directly from the toddler room. This area consists of a wooden decking area this area is a large safe, suitable and secure area. The area is equipped with play equipment such as a row of stainless-steel basins for water play and ride on equipment which is stored in a shed.</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:

The service has a healthy eating policy. The policy has been updated to include the required provision of meals and snacks to preschool children. The service has a rotating 2 weekly menu. The provision meals and snacks are included in the policy for children attending on a full day care, part time and sessional basis. The policy also includes advice for parents on healthy food required for them to provide for their children attending the service.

It is proposed that parents will continue to provide the snacks for the children attending the service. Additional water is provided from the tap which is monitored by the local authority.

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 following requirements to ensure the safety of the children have been met.

General safety:

Visitors to the service enter at the front door which is made of glass. Staff can see who is seeking to gain access to the service. All radiators in the proposed preschool room are thermostatically controlled. There are no loose cords evident on the windows in the preschool room. The toys are suitable with no sharp edges that could injure a child. The fire doors are not obstructed.

Infection control:

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The service appeared clean on the day of the fit for purpose inspection. There are fridges available in the service where it is proposed to store the perishable items of children's snacks and meals. All sinks for hand washing in the service are equipped with warm thermostatically controlled water, liquid soap, and foot operated pedal bins. All bins in the preschool room and toilet facilities are pedal operated and lidded.

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)

There are two staff trained in a first aid responder course immediately available to the children attending the preschool service.

(2)

A suitably equipped first aid box is available in the care room of the service and is easily accessible in the event of it being needed.

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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 has been met.

(1)(a)

The registered provider is aware of the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills on the premises. There is a template in the service to record the monthly fire drills. The last fire drill was carried out in the service on 16 September 2024.

(b)

The annual maintenance of the firefighting equipment in the service was recorded on 30 June 2024. The last maintenance of the smoke alarm in the service was recorded on 4 April 2024.

(4)

A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire is displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises at the entrance to 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. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change in circumstance. 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 of regulation is met.

(a)

The registered provider reported that the building was of a sound and stable structure. There were adequate storage facilities.

(b)

The building is safe and secure. Access is gained through an intercom system.

Visitors to the service can be observed through the glass doors at the entrance to the service.

(c)

The lighting is a combination of natural lighting from several windows and there are also fluorescent lights which are recessed into the ceilings of the preschool room. The room is ventilated through several openable windows on two sides of the room.

(d)

The proposed preschool room is clean and well presented. There is no evidence of repairs being required.

(e)

There are six toilets and six wash hand basins for use by the preschool children.

There are two nappy changing units in the service. There is one staff toilet for the use of the staff working in the service. There is liquid hand soap, paper towels and pedal bins available at all sinks. The sewage is managed through the public system.

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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.
- (4) Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—
- a sessional pre-school service, and
 - 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).
- (5) A registered provider of a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a minimum of 2 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

Room	Proposed age of children in the room	Measurements	Maximum number of full day care children that can be accommodated	Maximum number of sessional children that can be accommodated.
Toddler room	1 to 2 years of age	36 m ²	6 (due to current number of cots and sleeping facilities)	11
Montessori room	2 years of age to	56 .96m ²	25	22

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		6 years of age.			
	School age		37.2m ²	16	22
	<p>(1) There is adequate clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement for the proposed younger children to attend the preschool service.</p> <p>(2) The preschool room provides adequate clear floor space as specified in column (3) of Schedule 7 with reference to the proposed ages of children which the service will accommodate.</p> <p>(3) The service has adequate floor space for the numbers of children proposed to be facilitated in the service during the sessional hours.</p> <p>(4) The service has suitable space for the provision of both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) A sessional service. (b) Full day care/part-time service. </p> <p>(5) Not applicable as it is not proposed that this service will be a temporary service.</p>				