

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015WX090

Name of Service: Bright Beginnings Preschool & Afterschool Facility Ltd

Address of Service: Elderwood, Castlebridge, Wexford, Y35 EC90

Email Address: brightbeginngscastlebridge@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Aidan Farrell

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

Proposed change to service:	Increase numbers of children 56 to 75
Proposed Number of Children:	75
Registered Change:	Increase numbers of children

Date of Inspection:	0	4	1	0	2	0	2	1
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Inspection undertaken by: C. Ryan
Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla child and family agency
 Early Years Inspectorate
 Ely Hospital
 Ferrybank
 Wexford.

Rationale for Inspection :	
Proposed Change of Circumstance	Increase number of children from 56 to 75

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

Registration Status: Registered to accommodate 75 children
Date of Registration 18/10/2021

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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>Bright Beginnings is a privately operated service offering full day care, part-time, sessional and afterschool care to children aged from 6 months to 12 years. The service operates from 7.30am to 18.30pm and can currently accommodate up to 56 children.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes to increase the number of children the service can accommodate from 56 to 75 with the addition of a new two-story early year's room, additional toilets, and reconfiguration of the pre existing playrooms downstairs. All the rooms were measured as part of this fit for purpose inspection inclusive of the new extension.</p>
Premises	<p>The service operates from a house in a residential estate designated for the sole purpose of the early years' service and consists of 5 playrooms over two floors, 2 designated sleep rooms, a kitchen, staff room, sanitary accommodation & office. An outdoor play area is available to the rear of the property which the children have direct access to from the downstairs room.</p>
Staffing	<p>The manager is the designated person in charge daily and the registered provider assists when needed across the service. All the staff working directly with children in the service held the minimum of level 5 and above qualifications in Childcare and Early Childhood Care and Education.</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 two themes: Governance, and Safety.</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 presented to the Registration Panel for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving continued registration. 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>
Acknowledgements	<p>The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the Registered Provider and staff who were 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 manager will be the designated person in charge and proposes to work supernumerary to the children attending the service. A second named staff is available to deputise and will work directly with the children in the service. The registered provider will visit daily.

Summary Comment:

The requirement has been met.

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

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Requirement met:

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 is at all times adequate numbers of staff working directly with the children attending the service. The service was found compliant with staffing levels on last inspection.

Summary Comment:

The requirement has been met.

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

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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
- (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.
- (5) Where pre-school children attending 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 have access to an outdoor space other than such a space specified in paragraph 4, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable.

Requirement met:	<p>(1)(a) The new early years room provided sufficient space for the proposed increased number of children attending. The room was warm, spacious, and lit by natural light. The room was set up and equipped with toys, materials, and interest areas suitable to the ages and stage of development of the children who will attend the service. g</p> <p>(1)(b) Provisions were in place for children to rest and sleep while attending the service. Two designated sleep rooms were available to children with one located in the baby room and one toddler room.</p> <p>(2)(b) A large enclosed outdoor area and garden was available for the children to enjoy outdoor play. The area is fully enclosed and safe. The area is well developed and resourced and includes a planting area, a sand pits, climbing tunnels, seating, and ride on toys.</p> <p>(3)(a)(b) The outdoor play area is suitable, safe and secure and provides space, variety and stimulation for the children.</p> <p>(4) Not applicable.</p> <p>(5) Not applicable.</p>
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.

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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 provides all the food and drinks for the children attending. A fully equipped kitchen is available and there are fridges in all the early years rooms for the storage of drinks/snacks. The service employs a full-time chef to prepare and cook all meals.
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.

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:	<p>Infection Control: Warm water for hygienic hand washing was available and thermostatically controlled not to exceed 43°C. The service had policies and procedures in place to prevent the spread of infection in the service, including additional measures to prevent and reduce the spread of Covid 19. The provider advised that parents were informed of these measures and plans in place, for the commencement of children in the service. The service was currently operating a pod system, with minimal movement of staff and children between pods.</p> <p>Administration of Medication: There was a policy on the safe administration of medications to children attending the service. An area for the safe storage of medication was identified.</p> <p>General Safety: The entrance to the service was secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining access to the building. Internal rooms such as the kitchen and storage areas were inaccessible to the children.</p>
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.

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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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times

Requirement met:	<p>(1) The registered provider provided documentary evidence to demonstrate that sufficient numbers of staff were currently trained in first aid for children and will be always present on the premises.</p> <p>(2)(a)(b) A suitable and fully equipped first aid box was available on the premises and stored in an easily accessible place in the early year’s rooms.</p>
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Summary Comment: The requirement has been met.

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:	<p>(1)(a) Records were available on the premises for recording on fire drills and the registered provider was familiar with the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills.</p> <p>(b) Fire-fighting equipment and smoke alarms were installed, and contracts are in place for the service and maintenance of same.</p> <p>(4) A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the early year’s rooms and the fire assembly point was clearly identified.</p>
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Summary Comment: The requirement has been met.

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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: Adequate insurance for the service was in place to cover the increase in the number of children attending from 56 to 75.

Summary Comment: The requirement has been met.

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 has been met.

(a) The premises were modern build, and the provider informed the inspector that, to her knowledge, the building is of sound and stable structure with no deficits identified.

(b) The entrances to the service were safe and secured.

(c) The new early years room was lit and ventilated by natural light through openable windows on external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. All sanitary accommodation had windows for natural ventilation. The heating system was thermostatically controlled so that the surface temperature of the radiators in each room does not exceed 50°C.

(d) The premises were clean, well maintained and in good repair. A cleaning policy and schedule was available for the service including additional measures in line with Covid 19 guidelines.

(e) The service had adequate sanitary accommodation for the proposed increased number of children and staff who will be present in the service at any one time including sufficient toilets, nappy changing facilities, and staff toilets.

Summary Comment: The requirement has been met.

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) *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).*
- (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:	<p>(1) Adequate clear floor space was available for the proposed increased number of children who will attend the service.</p> <p>(2) The new early years room and reconfigured existing rooms were spacious and bright with ample clear floor space for the proposed increased number of children who will attend the service.</p> <p>(3) This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(4) This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(5) Not applicable to this service.</p>
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.