

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015WX115

Name of Service Firefly Childcare

Address of Service: Knockskemolin, Oulart, Gorey, Co. Wexford

Email Address: tarafinn11@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Tara Finn

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

Proposed change: Increase numbers of children attending from 42 to 53.

Proposed Number of Children: 53

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change in number of children attending from 42 to 53 children

Registered change: Change in number of children attending from 42 to 53 children

Date of Inspection: 2 9 0 7 2 0 2 4

Inspection undertaken by: C. Ryan

Title: EYI

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspector
Tusla Child and Family Agency
Ely Hospital, Ferrybank
Wexford

Rationale for Inspection:
Additional sessional service

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

Registration Status: Registered Full Day Care for 53 children

Date of Registration 30th August 2024

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



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	Firefly Childcare is registered as a full day care service. The registered provider proposes to increase the number of children attending from 42 to 53 with the addition of a new playroom. The new playroom is located to the rear of the providers home and will consist of one playroom with sanitary accommodation.
Premises	The new playroom will operate from a converted apartment located to the rear of the provider's home. The current service consists of three rooms in total. The baby and toddler rooms are located at the side of the provider's home and the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) room operates from a converted building to the rear of the house. There are sufficient toilets, nappy changing and wash hand basins available. A designated sleep room is available to the children. The outdoor play areas are divided into two and provide sufficient space for all the children attending.
Staffing	There are currently six staff working directly with the children in the service. The registered provider works daily in the service. There is a deputy designated person in charge.
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</p>

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	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 who was present on the day of the inspection.

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:	<p>The requirement of the regulation is met.</p> <p>The registered provider works daily in the service and directly with the children attending. There is a second named staff member employed who is available to deputise as required.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement of the regulation is met.</p> <p>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 are always adequate numbers of staff working directly with the children attending the service, including the requirement to have two staff on the premises at all times.</p>
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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:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

(1)(a)

The new room is a converted apartment, located adjacent to the provider’s home. The building consists of a playroom, small kitchen and toilet. The room was warm, clean and lit by natural light. The room was set up and equipped with toys and materials suitable to the ages and stage of development of the proposed children using the room.

(1)(b)

Provisions are in place for children to rest and sleep while attending the service. The service has a small sleep room in the main building which has sleep mattresses and bed linen available to the children who require sleep. Within the room there is a quiet corner for children to sit and rest.

(3)(a)(b)

The outdoor play area consists of a concreted area, a grassy area and interest areas. The outdoor area is located to the rear of the premises and is enclosed with gates and equipment.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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:	<p>The requirement of the regulation is met.</p> <p>The service has a healthy eating policy that is supplied to parents. Parents currently supply all the snacks for the children attending for the day. The parents are asked to supply food that is in line with the services healthy eating policy. All foods/lunchboxes will be stored in fridges in the playrooms. The registered provider reheats any hot food supplied for the children by parents. The service has a small kitchen to use for the storage and reheating of food 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.

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement of the regulation is met.</p> <p>Administration of medication:</p> <p>There is a policy on the safe administration of medications to children attending the service. An area was identified for the storage of medication.</p> <p>General safety:</p> <p>The entrance door is secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining access to the building. The outdoor area was fully enclosed.</p>
Requirement not met:	<p>Infection control:</p> <p>1. Warm water for hygienic hand washing was not thermostatically controlled not to exceed 43°C.</p> <p>General safety:</p> <p>2. The kitchen was not secured to restrict access to the children.</p>

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	3. A water boiler was turned on and accessible in the kitchen, which posed as scald risk.
Response from provider:	1. Valve installed to ensure water does not exceed 43°C. 2. The kitchen door is now secured. 3. The water boiler is now removed. Photographs submitted to the inspector.
Summary comment:	The requirements of the regulation are 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.

Requirement met:	The requirement of the regulation is met. (1) The registered provider will ensure that there is a staff member trained in FAR on the premises at all times. (2)(a)(b) A suitable and equipped first aid box was available on the premises and stored in an easily accessible place for staff.
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 of the regulation is met.

(1)(a)

Record sheets are available on the premises for recording of fire drills and the registered provider is familiar with the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills.

(b)

Fire-fighting equipment and smoke alarms are 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 the preschool rooms 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:

Insurance was available for the service. The registered provider submitted an insurance certificate.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 registered provider stated that the premises appear to be of sound and stable structure.

(b)

The front door entrance to the new room is safe and secured.

(c)

The playroom was lit and ventilated by natural light through openable windows on external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. The toilet was ventilated by natural ventilation through an openable window. The playroom is heated by temperature controlled electric radiators.

(d)

The new playroom was clean, well maintained and in good repair. It was freshly painted and decorated.

(e)

The new room has adequate sanitary accommodation for number of children and staff who will be present with toilets and separate staff toilet available. There is one toilet and wash handbasin in the room available for the children. The staff toilet is located in the main building adjacent.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(2)

There is adequate space available to the children. The playroom had sufficient space to accommodate the number of proposed children. The room was measured: at 20 sq. meters.