

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015WX130

Name of Service Explore and Discover Childcare

Address of Service: St. Mary's National School, Tagoat, Co. Wexford

Email Address: exploreanddiscoverchildcare@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Joanne Dee

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

Proposed change: Change in Number of Children that can be Accommodated from 18 to 30.
Addition of a morning sessional service.

Proposed Number of Children: 30

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change accepted.

Registered change: Change in Number of children that can be accommodated from 18 to 30.
Addition of a Morning Session from 9:00am-12:00pm.
Change in Number of Staff Employed from 5 to 7.

Date of Inspection:	2	2	0	7	2	0	2	4
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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:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 30 Children
Date of Registration	31 st July 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>Explore and Discover Childcare is a privately operated early years service which is offering full day care, part-time, sessional and afterschool care to children aged 2 to 12 years of age.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes to add a second sessional service to children in the morning by using the second room which is currently used for school aged care in the afternoon.</p>
Premises	<p>The service is located beside the national school in a purpose-built building in the village of Tagoat. The building consists of two playrooms, a small, designated sleep room, sanitary accommodation including a wheelchair/disability accessible toilet, a kitchen and an office. An outdoor area to the rear of the building which is directly accessed from the playroom and is fully enclosed.</p>
Staffing	<p>There are currently six staff working directly with the children in the service. The registered provider works daily in the service.</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>
Acknowledgements	<p>The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation 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 of the regulation is met.

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.

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 of the regulation is 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 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. There are currently six staff working 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.

(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 service consists of two playrooms of equal size. Both playrooms provide sufficient space for the children to play. The rooms were warm, clean and lit by natural light.

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	<p>The rooms were set up and equipped with toys and materials suitable to the ages and stage of development of the children using the room.</p> <p>(1)(b)</p> <p>Provisions are in place for children to rest and sleep while attending the service. The service has a small sleep room which has sleep mattresses and bed linen available to the children who require sleep. Within the rooms there are quiet areas for child to sit and rest. children to sleep.</p> <p>(3)(a)(b)</p> <p>The outdoor play area consists of a large sandy play area enclosed with concreted pathways and sheltered areas. The outdoor area was well developed with a good variety of toys, materials and equipment.</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 requirement of the regulation is met.

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 will be 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 preparation of food as needed.

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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:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

Infection control: Warm water for hygienic hand washing is available and thermostatically controlled not to exceed 43°C. The playrooms were clean and well maintained, with cleaning schedules ready.

Administration of medication:

There is a policy on the safe administration of medications to children attending the service. An area was identified for the storage of medication.

General safety:

The front entrance to the school is secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining access to the building.

Blind cords in the playrooms are secured to the wall. The outdoor area was fully enclosed.

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)

Documented evidence was available to demonstrate that two staff members currently are trained in FAR first aid for children and will be present on the premises. 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 a easily accessible place for staff.

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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 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:

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 partially 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. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.

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 service is safe and secured with an electronic magnetic lock.

(c)

The playrooms are lit and ventilated by natural light through openable windows on external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. The bathroom are ventilated by natural ventilation through openable windows. The playrooms are heated by oil heating, with all radiators covered.

(d)

The playrooms were clean, well maintained and in good repair.

(e)

The service has adequate sanitary accommodation for number of children and staff who will be present with toilets and separate staff toilets available. There are three toilets and one nappy changing unit available for the children and one separate staff toilet on the premises.

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)

There is adequate space available to the children. The playrooms have sufficient space to accommodate the number of children attending.

The second room was measured:

Room two (second room) measured at 42 sq. meters.

Between the two rooms the registered provider plans to have no more than the 33 children at any one time on the premises.

(2)

There was adequate floor space available to the children to play and move freely in the room.