

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D:	TU2015WX136							
Name of Service	Tus Maith							
Address of Service:	C/O Donard National School, Poulpeasty, Clonroche Co. Wexford, Y21V091							
Email Address:	Donardns@live.ie							
Name of Registered Provider:	Sinead Parnell							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time	✓	Sessional	✓		
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary			
Proposed change:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To change service from sessional to part time for 11 children. To change hours of opening from 09:30hrs to 13:00hrs to 09:30hrs to 14:30hrs. 							
Proposed Number of Children:	11							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	The inspector recommends all proposed changes.							
Registered change:	Change in service type from Sessional to Part Time & Sessional for 11 Children							
Date of Inspection:	0	3	0	7	2	0	2	3
Inspection undertaken by:	E Mc Garry							
Title:	Early Years Inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	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 Part Time / Sessional Service for 11 Children
Date of Registration	27 th July 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	Tus Maith is a community based sessional early years service which is managed by a board of management. The service currently operates an Early Years Care and Education Scheme (ECCE) from 09:30hrs to 13:00hrs Monday to Friday for 38 weeks per year. The registered provider proposes to change their registration from a sessional service to a part time service. To change the opening time of the service from 09:30hrs to 13:00hrs to 09:30hrs to 14:30hrs. The registered provider proposes to continue to cater for 11 early years children aged from 2 to 6 years of age.
Premises	The service is located in a classroom within the local national school. The early years children have access to their own designated toilets within the school. The children also have access to an outdoor play area.
Staffing	The registered provider does not work directly with the children. There is a manager employed to manage the service. There are currently two staff employed in the service who work directly with the children.
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	The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge 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 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 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.

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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.
- (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 outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

The proposed early years room is appropriately resourced to provide for the play and stimulation of the early years children. There are toys and play equipment on display in the rooms. There is a large outdoor play area situated on the grounds of the national school for the exclusive use of the early years service. The area is safe, suitable and secure.

(b)

There is a rest area provided in the early years room consisting of child sized seating, soft mats and cushions. There is a bed and bedding provided if a child needs to sleep.

(2)(b)

The outdoor area is a large safe, suitable and secure area.

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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. It is proposed that parents continue to provide the food for the children who will attend the service. Additional water is provided from a water dispenser in the early years room. The registered provider is aware of the food and nutrition requirements for children attending on a part-time basis.

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:

The entrance to the service is through the main door to the national school. This door is secure, preventing unauthorised people entering or children leaving unaccompanied.

The early years staff allow access to visitors by pressing an access button inside the main door.

All radiators are thermostatically controlled. There are no loose cords evident on the windows in the early years room. The fire doors are not obstructed.

There is a fridge available in the service where food provided by parents is stored.

All sinks for hand washing in the service are equipped with warm thermostatically controlled water, liquid soap and foot operated pedal bins.

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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)

There is a person trained in first aid for children who is immediately available to the children attending the early years 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.

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 23 April 2023.

(b)

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	<p>The annual maintenance of the firefighting equipment in the service was recorded on 16 January 2023. The last maintenance of the smoke alarm in the service was recorded in June 2023.</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>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.</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:	There is a copy of an insurance certificate is available in the service. The insurance certificate in place states there is cover to accommodate 11 early years children at any one time. The insurance is in place until 27 March 2024.
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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>On visual inspection the building appears to be of a sound and stable structure with adequate storage facilities.</p> <p>(b)</p>
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	<p>The building is safe and secure. Access is gained through the main entrance of the national school. Early years staff press a button inside the entrance door to allow parents and visitors access to the service.</p> <p>(c)</p> <p>The lighting is a combination of natural lighting from several windows and there are also fluorescent lights which are on the ceiling of the early years room. The early years rooms are ventilated through openable windows.</p> <p>(d)</p> <p>The proposed early years room is clean and well presented. There is no evidence of repairs being required.</p> <p>(e)</p> <p>There are three toilets and two wash hand basins for use by early years children. There is a wash hand basin also available in the early years room. There is a nappy changing unit in the service. There is a 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.</p>
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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).*

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Requirement met:	<p>(1) There is an adequate clear floor available on the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the early years service. There is 61.88 square meters of clear floor space available to the children attending the service.</p> <p>(2) The care 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>(4) The service has adequate floor space for the numbers of children proposed to be facilitated in the service during the sessional and part time care hours.</p> <p>The service has suitable space for the provision of both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) A sessional service.(b) part-time service
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