

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2016CW003

Name of Service Kloyda Montessori School

Address of Service: The Urglin Centre, Ruthland, Bennekerry, Carlow.

Email Address: karlshortt@yahoo.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Marie O'Connor

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

Proposed change: Change of number of children attending from 22 to 33.
Change of email address from karlshortt@yahoo.ie to kloydamontessori@gmail.com .

Proposed Number of Children: 33

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change in Number of Children from 22 to 33 children
Change in Email address from karlshortt@yahoo.ie to kloydamontessori@gmail.com

Registered change: Change in Number of Children from 22 to 33 children
Change in Email address from karlshortt@yahoo.ie to kloydamontessori@gmail.com

Date of Inspection: 2 8 0 8 2 0 2 4

Inspection undertaken by: Norma Thornton

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla Child & Family Agency, Athy road, Carlow.

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status: Registered Sessional service for 33 children

Date of Registration 04 September 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	<p>Kloyda Montessori school is in the rural area of Bennekerry in county Carlow. The early years service operates from a ground floor building on the grounds of the Urglin centre and church in Bennekerry.</p> <p>The service is open from 09:00 to 12:30 hours and provides a sessional early childhood care and education (ECCE) service for children aged 2 to 6 years of age.</p>
Premises	<p>The preschool classroom incorporates all the ground floor of the building and can be divided in two by a sliding door.</p> <p>Toilet facilities are provided on each side of the classroom.</p> <p>An outdoor play area is provided at the back of the building.</p>
Staffing	<p>There are currently three staff members employed in the service, including the registered provider. All three staff members will be working directly with the children in the service and hold qualifications at Level 5 on the national Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) framework.</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>

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 registered provider is the designated person in charge daily. A named person is proposed 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.

(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:

(1) The registered provider shall ensure that there will be at least three qualified staff members working directly with the early years children.

(8)(b)(c) Not applicable, as the registered provider intends to always have at least two adults on the premises.

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.*
- (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:

(1)(a) Interest and Montessori areas such as a practical life area, cultural area, mathematical area, reading and language area, a nature table, art and creativity area and sensory area were observed in the classrooms. A sliding door divided the two classrooms but could be opened for large group activities.

Montessori equipment present included practical life tasks such as opening, tying, threading, bolt and nut screwing, sieving, locking, transferring and pouring.

Cultural areas consisted of resources such as world globes and jigsaws of the world, Europe and Ireland, as well as the continents of the world.

Mathematical areas were well resourced with spindles, shapes, knobbed cylinders, peg boards, jigsaws, mathematical beads, rods, blocks, and bricks.

Art areas included art easels for ease of drawing and painting.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Each of the interest areas were observed to be adequately resourced with a variety of age-appropriate play materials and equipment.

(b) There was a designated rest area where the children could choose to relax and read.

(2) The classroom had access out to a secured outdoor area at the back of the building, which provided adequate space for the children to enjoy outdoor play. The area contained a giant wooden tractor and trailer, double slide, lookout tower and outdoor mud kitchen.

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 registered provider ensured that an adequate, suitable healthy eating policy was in place in the service. This is communicated to parents at the time of their child's registration and enrolment in the service.

A refrigerator is provided in the office area for the safe storage of children's perishable lunch items. It is proposed that each classroom will have a low- level drinks station for the children to independently access throughout their time in the session.

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 has been met.

General Safety.

1. The main door to the service with a keypad call system to prevent unauthorised access to the premises and to prevent any child from exiting unsupervised. Staff had full view of the car park and any potential visitors to the service through the large glass windows. The perimeter of the service and outdoor area was secured with an eight-foot metal fence and wall.

2. All emergency doors in the service were clearly lit and unobstructed.
 3. The registered provider demonstrated that a risk assessment of the outdoor play area was carried out and documented daily.
 4. There was a designated safe and secure storage area for cleaning materials and equipment, which was inaccessible to the children.
- Infection Control.
1. Drinking water from the public water supply is readily available and accessible to the children and staff.
 2. Liquid hand soap and paper hand towelling were observed in all the children's toilets and in the designated staff toilet. The proposed new classroom had one toilet and handwash basin which was supplied with liquid hand soap and paper hand towels.
 3. There were designated hand sanitising stations, located just inside the main entrance door and at several locations in the service.
 4. The registered provider demonstrated that there were daily cleaning schedules of the service facilities and equipment, for which there was a documented record of.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 as evidenced by the following.

(1) Documented evidence was available to demonstrate staff members had completed the approved first aid responder (FAR) paediatric course, the certificates for which, were currently in date and on file.

The staff roster indicated that there would always be at least one staff member trained in FAR onsite during the service.

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:

(1)(a) The inspector observed that a record was available for the recording of monthly fire drills carried out in the service.

(b) A maintenance record was available for review, recording the maintenance of firefighting equipment. The firefighting equipment was recorded as having been serviced on 5 September 2023.

The fire detection alarm system was recorded as having been serviced on the 16 October 2023.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the classroom. A fire assembly point was clearly observed in the outdoor area.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

Requirement met:

A certificate of current insurance was available for inspection and documented that there was insurance cover available for 22 preschool children to attend a sessional service. 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 provider’s 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:

- (a) The registered provider stated that there were no issues identified in relation to the building structure.
- (b) The entrance door to the school building where the classroom was located was well secured to prevent any children exiting unsupervised and to prevent any unauthorised persons from entering the service.
- (c) The service was naturally lit with several large windows. The natural light available was supplemented by long ceiling lights, each with a protective cover. All the windows could be opened to provide natural ventilation. Heating was provided by a gas heating system with radiators which were wall mounted and inaccessible to the children. The boiler was last service in April 2024.
- (d) There were cleaning schedules and records available demonstrating that the service was cleaned daily and maintained and repaired as required.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	(e) There were three designated children's toilets, each with a hand wash basin. A hand wash basin/ sink was provided in each of the classrooms. A separate designated staff toilet was available in the adjacent building which also provided designated children's toilets for the children to use when playing outside.
--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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.

(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

Requirement met:	<p>(1) There is adequate and clear floor space available in the new classroom for up to 33 early years children to attend the early years service.</p> <p>(3) There is a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space available for each of the 33 early years children proposed to attend the sessional early years service. A total area of clear floor space of 87 square metres was provided in the service.</p>
-------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------