

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D:	TU2016LK001
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Name of Service	Kilcornan Preschool
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Address of Service:	Dromlohan, Kilcornan, Co. Limerick
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Name of Registered Provider:	Brid Nealon
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time		Sessional	✓
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:	Change in Number of Children from: 11 children to 18 children (outdoor room) Change in Number of Staff Employed – from: 1 staff to 2 staff
Proposed Number of Children:	18
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Change in Number of Children– from: 11 to 18 children (outdoor room) Change in Number of Staff Employed – from 1 staff to 2 staff
Registered change:	Change in Number of Children– from: 11 to 18 children (outdoor room) Change in Number of Staff Employed – from 1 staff to 2 staff


Date of Inspection:	1	5	1	0	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by:	J Ryan
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Tusla Early Years Inspectorate 2nd floor Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick
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Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

 An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach Child and Family Agency	Child and Family Agency Act 2013 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016	Version 05 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC)	1 of 6
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Registration Status:	Registered Sessional Service for 18 children
Date of Registration	6th November 2024

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	This is a private preschool school which opened in September 2016. The service provides sessional care and education to preschool children aged 2 years to 6 years of age. The service operates two sessions from 08.45hrs - 11.45hrs and from 11.55hrs – 02.55hrs for 38 weeks a year. The proposed setting will be able to cater for a maximum of 18 children at each session. The curriculum is play based being outdoors full time.
Premises	The service is located at a domestic dwelling in a rural area.
Staffing	The registered provider is the designated person in charge and has completed a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 7. The second member of staff working in the service has a level 6 qualification.
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 registered provider, second staff member and children who were 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:	The requirement has been met.
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(1)(a) The registered provider is the designated person in charge who has responsibility for running the service daily. A second staff member will work in the service each day.

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 will ensure that there is an adequate number of staff employed to work at the service. Two staff propose to work in the service for the morning sessional service and those two staff will work in the afternoon sessional service also.

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.*

(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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The proposed outdoor space has clearly defined interest areas in the large garden space, there are three roofed sections for shelter in inclement weather conditions. There are natural and sensory materials available such as sand play, water play, real type kitchen play props, books, a tuft tray, tables and chairs, swings, slides, dolls, buggies, bricks and blocks. Additional play equipment is stored in a shed and can be used in accordance with the children's choices.

The service can also use the well-resourced preschool room to accommodate children from 2 to 6 years of age. It is well stocked with play materials and equipment. The

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room has areas of interest developed and all play materials are stored on open low-level shelving where all toys are readily accessible to the children.

(b) Adequate rest facilities are available outdoors for the pre-school children during the sessions if required as soft seating, blankets and cushions are available if required.

(4) The proposed outdoor space was safe and secure.

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 has been met.

The service has a healthy eating policy in place for the service. The parents are provided with a copy of the healthy eating policy to encourage them to provide adequate, suitable, nutritious and varied food/drinks for their child while attending the service.

Children will have access to drinking water throughout the morning.

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.

The front gate is locked and secure and staff must allow all visitors to gain access to the facility.

The boundaries in the outdoor play area are safe as it is secured by a wall, hedging, trees and a gate.

Fire emergency exit doors from the playroom are unobstructed, and the fire assembly area is clearly visible in the outdoor space.

Safe storage is provided for each child's personal belongings.

Storage for cleaning materials and equipment is provided in a secure area.

A fridge is provided for the storage of perishable foods.

Drinking water is readily available to the children throughout the morning.

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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) A person trained in first aid response is always accessible and available to the children in the service.

(2) (a) A fully equipped first aid box is available in the service.

(b) The first aid box is readily identifiable and easily accessible to the registered provider and staff if 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 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 has been met.

(1)(a) A record is available of monthly fire drills at the service.

(b) A service record for the firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms is available. A contracted company visits the school and preschool to check this equipment on an ongoing basis. The last recorded maintenance service of fire extinguishers was dated December 2023 and smoke alarms was September 2024.

(4) A fire assembly point is identified in the outdoor area. Notices of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the pre-school.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

The insurance certificate indicates cover for 22 children to attend the service. The certificate expires on 27/03/2025.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

- (a) This is a proposed full time outdoor sessional service where three roofed sheltered areas have been provided.
- (b) The entrance gate to the service is always locked and access is controlled by staff.
- (c) Natural day light and natural ventilation will be provided outdoors.
- (d) The outdoor area will be maintained and cleaned throughout as required.
- (e) Sufficient sanitary facilities are provided in the premises. There are two toilets and two wash hand basins available for the children and a separate toilet is available for adults on site in the registered providers dwelling house. Thermostatically controlled hot water at less than 43 degrees Celsius is available at the wash hand basins.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) Adequate clear floor space is available in the outdoor space to work, play and allow the free movement of children attending the pre-school service.