

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2016WX007

Name of Service Little Breeches Preschool & Montessori

Address of Service: Rathangan Hall, Rathangan, Duncormick, Co. Wexford.
Y35 HF78

Email Address: Sineadwhite119@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Sinead White

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

Proposed change: Change in service address from Kilcowan, Duncormick, Wexford, Y35 KT10 to Rathangan Hall, Rathangan, Duncormick, Co. Wexford, Y35 HF78
Change in number of children from 11 to 18 children

Proposed Number of Children: 18

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Move to new premises and increase number of children to 18.

Registered change: Change of service address
Change in number of children from 11 to 18 children

Date of Inspection: 2 1 0 8 2 0 2 5

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:
Move to new premises

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

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| Registration Status: | Registered Sessional Service for 18 Children |
| Date of Registration | 2nd September 2025 |

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).

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| Description of Service | <p>Little Breeches is a privately owned preschool located in a rural community in south Co. Wexford. It offers a play based and Montessori sessional service to children aged between 2 to 6 years of age. It operates from 9.00am to 12.00pm and 12.30pm to 15.30pm Monday to Friday.</p> <p>The registered provider has moved to a new premises and proposes to increase the number of the children attending to accommodate the needs of the families and children living in the area.</p> <p>The new premises consist of an entrance hall, a playroom, children’s toilet, and separate staff toilet. There is an outdoor play area available to the children.</p> |
| Staffing | <p>There are currently four staff working directly with the children in the service. The registered provider works directly in the service. There is a second named staff designated as the person in charge and assists across the rooms as required.</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</p> |

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| | 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. |
| 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:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

The registered provider is the daily designated person in charge. There is a second named staff member employed who will be 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.

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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.*

Requirement met:

(1)(a)

The playroom provides sufficient space for the children to play. 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 children using the room. The outdoor play area consisted of an enclosed garden to the rear of the playschool off the car park. There was a wide variety of toys, materials and equipment. Children have access to the large community hall and the grounds of the GAA club also.

(1)(b)

Provisions were in place for children to rest while attending the service. There was an identified area in the room for children that consisted of child sized chairs with cushions.

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:

Parents supply the food/snacks for the children attending the service. All foods/lunchboxes will be stored in a fridge in the playroom. A supply of additional snacks will be available in the event a child forgets their lunch or is hungry and requires extra food.

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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. There was 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 individualised care plan was in place for the care of a child who may require administration of medication.

General safety:

The entrance door to the building is secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining access to the building. 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 were currently trained in FAR first aid for children and will be present on the premises.

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(2)(a)(b)

A suitable and equipped first aid box was available on the premises and stored in an easily accessible place for staff.

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:

(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 were present, and contracts are in place for the regular service and maintenance of same. The firefighting equipment was last serviced in May 2025.

(4)

A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the playrooms.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

A quote for the proposed change was available. 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.

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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)

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

(b)

The front door entrance to the building is safe and secure.

(c)

The playroom was lit and ventilated by natural light through openable windows on external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. The toilets were ventilated through mechanical ventilation. The service is heated with oil heating.

(d)

The playroom was clean, well maintained and in good repair. Cleaning schedules were in place.

(e)

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

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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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

There is adequate space available to children. The service consists of one playroom which has sufficient space to accommodate the number of proposed children.

The room was measured at 33 sq. meters.