

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2018MH501							
<b>Name of Service</b>	Churchfields Tiny Tots							
<b>Address of Service:</b>	Churchfields, Ashbourne, Co. Meath							
<b>Email Address:</b>	documents@tinytotschildcare.ie							
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Jeannie Kyle & Barbara Woods							
<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sessional</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	<b>Drop-In</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Childminding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Proposed change:</b>	To increase the numbers of children attending from 88 to 102. To increase the number of childcare staff from 15 to 18.							
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	102 children							
<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	102 children can be approved based on the assessment of space under Regulation 30. 18 childcare staff can be approved.							
<b>Registered change:</b>	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 88 to 102. Change in number of staff from 15 to 18.							
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	1	8	0	9	2	0	2	3
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	D. Murray							
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector.							
<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Family Resource Centre, Commons Road							
	Navan Co Meath							

### Rationale for Inspection:

#### Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day Care Service for 102 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> September 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	<p>Churchfields Tiny Tots is a private childcare facility established in 2018. This service provides full day care, part-time and sessional care to pre-school children from 2 to 6 years. A school aged service is also provided. The service operates from 07:15am-18:00pm and participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE). The registered provider is purposing the following: To increase the number of children in the service from 88 to 102. To increase the number of staff from 15 to 18.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The premises is purpose built and consists of 6 care rooms, a sensory room, an office, kitchen, staff room and sanitary facilities. The rooms are as follows: Downstairs: <b>Room 1(Best Butterflies 1) &amp; Room 2( Best Butterflies 2)</b>facilitate the care of children from 3 to 5 years attending the service on a part-time basis. <b>Room 3(Genius Gems)</b> facilitates the care of children from 2 years 6 months to 3 years 6 months attending the service on an ECCE /Full day care basis. <b>Room 4 (Superstars)</b>provides care and education to children from 2.6 years to school going age attending the service on a full day care/part- time basis. Upstairs: <b>Room 5(Busy Bees)</b> provides care and education for children from 2.6 years to school going age attending the service on an ECCE basis with a morning session from 08:25am to 11:25am and an afternoon session from 13:35pm to 16:35pm.This room also facilitates children attending on a part-time basis. <b>Room 6 (Clever Cookies)</b>provides care and education for children from 2.6 years to school going age for children attending the service on a sessional basis in the mornings from 9am to 12 am. This room accommodates school aged children in the afternoon.</p> <p>There are 6 outdoor areas located on the premises which include partially sheltered areas.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The registered provider employs a manager, 17 childcare staff and a cook.</p>
<b>Methodology</b>	<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>

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	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.
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The Inspectors wish to acknowledge the co-operation of the registered provider and manager, childcare staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment	
<i>(1) A registered provider shall ensure that—</i>	
<i>(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.</i>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	The requirement has been met. The service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels	
<i>(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.</i>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	The requirements have been met. (1)The registered provider has ensured that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service. The registered provider is aware of the ratios under reg 11 and has advised of the staffing levels in each care room.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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—
- (a) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that is registered for the first time 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:

- (1)(a) The requirement has been met.  
Play materials and play equipment in all care rooms are visible and easily accessible to the children on open shelving at their height which supported children to have choices in selecting materials and equipment to play with. Tables and chairs in each room are appropriate to the age and stage of development of pre-school children attending the specific care rooms. The care rooms are well resourced and had areas of interest with supporting equipment which incorporated natural/sensorial materials, art and crafts and a range of suitable toys.
- (b) The requirement has been met.  
Cosy areas consisting of mats and soft furnishings are available in each care room for children to take a break from activities if needed. Stackable beds are placed on the floor in Room 3 (Genius Gems) for children who require sleep.
- (2)(a) The requirement has been met.  
The outdoor space is divided into age-appropriate areas which are enclosed with walls and fencing with secure gates. The surface areas consist of a combination of wood chip, tarmac, grass area, cement and artificial grass surface. Sheltered areas permitted outdoor play in all types of weather. Equipment in the outdoor spaces included planting area, climbing frame, ride on toys, mud kitchen, building blocks, play house, see saw, wooden benches, wooden hut, sand table and push along toys.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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 menu plan with a variety of meals ranging from meat, fish and poultry all prepared onsite by the resident cook. The children attending the service on an ECCE basis/full day care basis bring a packed lunch. Children attending the service on a full day care basis can avail of breakfast on arrival consisting of a choice of cereals. A snack is served at 10am with the main hot meal served between 12:00 am to 13:00pm. A further snack is served at 14:30pm with a light meal served at 16:00 before leaving for home. Water is the drink of choice and is available in all the care rooms.

### 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.

- All cleaning agents are stored out of reach of the children.
- All play materials are placed on stable based shelving units. Play materials and equipment are observed to be safe and suitable for the developmental age of the pre-school children attending each room.
- The emergency exit doors are unobstructed.
- An indoor and outdoor risk assessment are conducted daily.
- The cords on the blinds are mounted to the walls at the windows in the care rooms, out of reach of children.
- Fridges are available for the storage of perishable items in the children's lunch boxes.
- Sleep logs were available to record 10 minutes sleep checks on children who were sleeping.

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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) An adequate number of staff have up to date First Aid Responders course and will be available at all times to the children attending the pre-school service.

(2)(a) and (b) The first aid box is suitably equipped and is safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position in the care rooms and are available at all times.

### 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 template is available to record fire drills that take place in the service.

(b) A record is maintained of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke detection system in the service. The firefighting equipment was last serviced in October 2022 and smoke detection system were last serviced on 27/02/2023.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was conspicuously displayed in the service.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

The service has adequate insurance for 102 children from the 28/08/23 to the 27/03/24.

### 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 inspector observed the walls, flooring, doors, and windows are suitably maintained, and did not identify any safety issues or concerns.

(b) The main door to the service is secured with a buzzer system and the outdoor spaces are enclosed with secure gates. These security measures ensure that a child does not exit unsupervised and restricted unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service and outdoor spaces.

(c) Windows provided natural lighting to the care room. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with shatter proof coverings.

Heating is provided through natural sources which combines Solar Panels and an Air to Water system. The temperature of the pre-school rooms range between 18°C to 20°C on the day of inspection.

Natural ventilation is provided by opened doors and windows. An air conditioning system is also in place in 2 of the care rooms downstairs. Mechanical ventilation is in place in the sanitary facilities.

(d) The pre-school rooms are in a clean condition on the day of inspection. Cleaning schedules are available to ensure regular cleaning of the service.

(e) The children's sanitary facilities consisted of the following:

- In total the service has 11 children's toilets with partitions and doors and 11 sinks. This includes the 2 outdoor children's toilet and the 2 sinks.

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- In total there are 2 nappy changing facilities.
- Two staff /disability accessible sanitary closet is located on the ground floor and 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

Warm water not exceeding 43°C, liquid soap and paper hand towels are provided in all sanitary facilities. Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of paper hand towels.

### 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:

This requirement has been met.

(2) Based on the measurements of the care rooms and age of the children the registered provider ensured that clear floor space is available in each care room.

**Room 1: (Best Butterflies 1)** Clear floor space available is 12.16 square meters.

This provides sufficient space for:

- 5 children between the ages of 3 to 5 years attending on a part-time basis.

**Room 2: (Best Butterflies 2)** Clear floor space available is 14.78 square meters.

This provides sufficient space for

- 6 children between the ages of 3 to 5 years attending on a part-time basis.

**Room 3: (Genius Gems)** Clear floor space available is 39.31square meters.

This provides sufficient space for:

- 12 children between the ages of 2.6 years to 3.6 years attending on a full day care basis.
- 18 children between the ages of 2.6 years to 3.6 years attending on a sessional ECCE basis.
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**Room 4: (Superstars)** Clear floor space available is 51.87square meters.

This provides sufficient space for:

- 23 children between the ages of 2.6 years to school aged attending the service on a full day care /part-time basis.

**Room 5: (Busy Bees)** Clear floor space available is 58.11 square meters.

This provides sufficient space for:

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- 25 children between the ages of 2.6 years to school aged attending the service on a part-time basis.

**Room 6: (Clever Cookies)** Clear floor space available is 58.46 square meters. This provides sufficient space for:

- 25 children between the ages of 2.6 years to school aged attending the service on sessional ECCE basis.