

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2018TY509

Name of Service: Lisgorm T/A Buttons and Bows Childminding Service

Address of Service: Main Street, Templemore, Co. Tipperary, E41 HV04

Email Address: rosaleenfairbrother@yahoo.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Rosaleen Dwyer

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

Proposed change: Address: from Bank Street to Main Street, Templemore to Main Street, Templemore, Co. Tipperary, E41 HV04
Increase in number of children: From 32 to 57

Proposed Number of Children: 57

Recommended Change Following Inspection: 57 children

Registered change: Change of address from Bank Street to Main Street, Templemore to Main Street, Templemore, Co. Tipperary, E41 HV04
Change in number of children from 32 to 57 children

Date of Inspection:	2	2	0	7	2	0	2	5
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Inspection undertaken by: L McGeeney and N O'Donoghue

Title: Early Years Inspectors

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: North Tipperary Civic Offices, Limerick Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary E45A099

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 57 Children
Date of Registration	01 August 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).

Description of Service	This full day care service was established in 2018 to provide care and education to children aged between 0 and 6 years old. A registered school aged service is also provided. The service operates Monday – Friday, 7am – 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. This includes a 38-week sessional service, funded under the early childhood care and education scheme (ECCE) for eligible which operates from late August to June in line with the school year.
Premises	The service proposes to move from its current premises to a newly renovated and extended building in the town of Templemore in north Tipperary. The new premises was formerly a public house, located on the corner of Main Street and Bank Street. The older, front part of the building was three storeys, with a single storey extension at the back of the premises. On the ground floor there were two activity rooms intended for use by children aged under 3 years old, two sleep rooms, sanitary accommodation areas and a kitchen. On the first floor there was a large activity room intended for use by children aged between 3 and 6 years old and sanitary accommodation. The top floor had a large activity room intended for use by school age children and sanitary accommodation. The outdoor play area was located at the back of the premises and divided into two sections, one for the younger children and one for the older children. There was also a two roomed, single storey building off the outdoor play area to provide additional sheltered play space for the children. Another building at the side of the outdoor area had been renovated for use as a staff room, sluice room and wheelchair accessible sanitary accommodation area.
Staffing	The registered provider, who is responsible for five early years services in north Tipperary and Laois, will not work in the service on a daily basis but will be available to call on when required. The service manager will be the person in charge each day, supported by nine other members of staff.

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<p>Methodology</p>	<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>
<p>Acknowledgements</p>	<p>The Inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge and staff who were present on the day of the inspection.</p>

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.

<p>Requirement met:</p>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) The service manager will be the person in charge on a daily basis. There was a named person who could deputise in her absence.</p>
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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)—*
- (a) *a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times,*

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1) It is proposed that there will be sufficient staff working directly with the children at all times.

(8)(a) It is proposed that there will be at least two staff present at all times while the service is in operation.

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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) There were three large, bright, well-resourced activity rooms available for use by the pre-school children: Baby room and Wobbler room on the ground floor and the Pre-

school room on the first floor. The equipment and materials were of good quality. Most of the furniture, toys and materials were newly purchased and laid out in interest areas to support self-directed play and exploration by the children.

It is proposed that children will have daily access to play in the outdoors as well as indoors.

(b) There were two large sleep rooms on the ground floor: one for use by children in the Baby room and one for use by children in the Wobbler room. Each room had openable windows, black-out blinds and both heating and cooling systems to ensure that the rooms remained comfortable and suitable places for the children during sleep times. There were 16 newly purchased standard cots with short legs and fitted mattresses as well as two fire evacuation cots available between the two sleep rooms. In addition, there were 18 stackable sleep beds available for use by the older children who required a sleep during the day. Each activity room had a cosy relaxation area where the children could rest and relax during the day when they wanted to.

(2)(b) The outdoor space at the back of the premises had been developed into two outdoor play areas for the children. The ground was covered with a wet pour, soft fall surface. The area was enclosed by stone walls and divided using green mesh fencing and gates. There was a water access point with a sink for water play and hand washing. A building with two activity rooms was located at the end of the outdoor area for use by the children when using the outdoor space.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

It is proposed that all meals and snacks will be provided by the service, with the exception of the morning snack eaten by the children in the Pre-school room, which they will bring from home as a packed lunch.

There was a healthy eating policy and a weekly menu plan for the service.

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:

This requirement has been met.

General Safety:

The entrance door to the service, which opened onto the main street, will be kept secured at all times. There were glass panels in the top section and sides of the front door so that staff could see who was seeking entry before opening the door. Staff will be responsible for monitoring all entry to and exit from the premises. There was an electronic locking system on the entrance door which could be opened by keypad or fob. Emergency exits doors off sleep rooms and corridors which were not used for normal entry and exit to the building were fitted with alarms to alert if they were opened.

The kitchen was inaccessible to the children. The door to the kitchen was kept secured and entry was by a coded keypad lock.

A CCTV system was installed throughout the premises.

There were two stairwells in the building: a main stairwell for daily use and a fire escape stairwell. The stairwells were well lit, handrails were fitted to both sides of the stairwell with a lower rail available on one side for use by the children. The steps of the stairs were covered with a non-slip, fitted linoleum flooring.

Hot water for hand washing was thermostatically controlled not to exceed 43°C. Hot water on the day of inspection was between 32° and 41°C.

All blind cords were secured to the wall with safety devices.

Infection Control:

The service had an infection prevention and control policy. There were hand washing sinks in each of the sanitary accommodation areas, in the kitchenette in each activity room and in the kitchen. There was also a sink unit in the outdoor play area. Paper towels, liquid soap and pedal bins were located beside each hand washing sink. Wall mounted hand sanitiser dispensers were available along the corridors and near doorways where they could be accessed when needed.

Wheelie bins were stored in a secure area outside, where they were inaccessible to the children.

Safe Sleep:

There were wall thermometers and thermostats in each sleep room to ensure the room temperature was maintained between 16° and 20°C.

The service had a safe sleep policy. Sleep record sheets were available to record details of the child's position, colour and breathing while asleep.

Fire Safety:

Fire escape routes were kept clear of obstruction.

Fire hydrant points were available in the outdoor area.

The lift had a master switch that could be turned off in the event of a fire to prevent it being used.

A suitable fire assembly point has been identified in consultation with the fire officer.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service manager and nine other members of staff held current certification in first aid response (FAR).

(2)(a) Suitably equipped first aid boxes were available on wall hooks in each activity room and in the kitchen, where they could be easily accessed when required.

(b) The first aid boxes were available if required by a child attending 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 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) Fire drill record sheets were available in each room. It is proposed that the fire drill will continue to be practiced once every month.

(b) There was a record of the number and type of the firefighting equipment which was newly installed in June 2025. The smoke alarm system was installed and commissioned in June 2025. All documents relating to the alarm system were available in the service.

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(4) Notices of the procedures to follow in the event of a fire were displayed on the walls in each room along with a diagram of the escape route. Fire evacuation notices were also displayed on the walls of each corridor and landing.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

The service had current insurance for a full day care service for up to 93 children valid until 27 March 2026.

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:

This requirement has been met.

(a) The premises was recently renovated and extended under the supervision of an engineer.

(b) The premises was safe and secure.

(c) The service was lit throughout with natural light through openable windows in the walls or ceiling supplemented by electric ceiling lights as needed. Ceiling windows and blinds were remote controlled and rain sensitive. Rooms were also naturally ventilated to the external air through openable windows and doors.

Internal sanitary accommodation areas were mechanically ventilated, supplemented by trickle vents to the external air.

The premises was heated by an oil-fired central heating system through wall mounted radiators in each room. Activity rooms and sleep rooms were also fitted with wall mounted, electric, dual system cooling and heating units.

The rooms off the outdoor area were heated by wall mounted electric radiators.

(d) The fixtures and fittings throughout the premises were new and recently installed. There was a cleaning programme to ensure that the service was maintained in a clean and hygienic condition.

(e) The following sanitary accommodation was available in the service: There were four nappy changing areas downstairs, two each off the Baby and Toddler room. Each nappy changing area was in its own cubicle with a wall mounted, fold down changing table, cubby hole storage units, floating sink unit and pedal bins. This was sufficient provision for up to 44 children who require nappy changing. There was also a child sized toilet with wash hand basin in a separate cubicle and a wheelchair accessible sanitary accommodation area downstairs, which could cater for up to 11 toilet trained children and up to 8 staff.

There was a second wheelchair accessible sanitary accommodation area in the building off the outdoor play area, which was sufficient provision for another 8 staff. There were two toilets and wash hand basins on the first floor for use by the children, which was sufficient accommodation for 22 toilet trained children.

There were two toilets and wash hand basins on the top floor, adjacent to the school age care room.

Therefore, excluding the sanitary provision for school age children, there was sufficient sanitary accommodation for up to 33 toilet trained children, up to 44 children in nappies and up to 16 staff, present in the service at any one time.

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 30 – Minimum Space Requirements

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- (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.
- (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.
- (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).

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1) The rooms in the service had the following clear floor space:

Baby room: 44.3m²
 Toddler room: 52.3m²
 Pre-school room: 45m²
 Outdoor room 1: 18.56m²
 Outdoor room 2: 18.88m²
 School age care room: 55.1m²

Therefore, the total space available to the early years children, excluding the room for the school age children was 179.04m² which was sufficient for the proposed number of 57 children to be accommodated at any one time.

(2) It is proposed that the number of children accommodated in each room will be accordance with the space requirements according to age and length of stay in the service on any given day.

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(3) There was sufficient space available in the proposed Pre-school room to accommodate up to 22 children attending for the ECCE session in the morning.

(4) The registered provider and service manage understood the different space requirements according to the children's ages and length of time spent in the service, including when sessional and full day care are provided contemporaneously.