

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2019CC008

Name of Service: Bright Beginnings

Address of Service: Dromleigh National School, Dromleigh

Email Address: brightbeginningskilmichael@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Ms. Patrice Ring

Type of Proposed Service:	Sessional	✓	Part-Time	✓	Drop-In	
	Full Day Care		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change: This is currently a registered sessional service. The service proposes to offer an additional service type:

- a part time service as well as a sessional service

Proposed Number of Children: The service is currently registered to cater for 11 children attending the sessional service. The service is proposing to increase the number of children attending the sessional service from 11 to 19.

The service has adequate space to cater for 15 children aged 3 to 6 years attending the proposed part time service. As there will be two staff in attendance the number of children that can attend will depend on the age group of the children in attendance each day in the proposed part time service.

The ratio of adults to children in a part time service is:

- children aged between 2 and 3 years 1:6
- children aged 3 to 6 years is 1:8

Registered change: The service proposes to offer an additional service type: part time service and to increase the maximum number of children that can attend the sessional service from 11 to 19

Date of Inspection:	2	3	0	7	2	0	2	1
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Inspection undertaken by: Ms. O' Reilly

Title: Early Years Inspector

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:

Early Years' Service
Administration Building
St Mary's Health Campus
Gurranabraher
Co. Cork

Rationale for Inspection :**Proposed Change of Circumstance**

The service is proposing to offer an additional service type that is part time as well as a sessional service from September 2021 and to increase the maximum number of children that can attend at any one time in the sessional service from 11 to 19 children

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part time and sessional service for 19 children
Date of Registration	10 th September 2021

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	Bright Beginnings is a registered early years sessional service providing education and care to preschool children from 2 to 6 years and for children attending the Early Childhood Care and education scheme ECCE. Opening hours are registered as 09:30 to 12:30 hours each day Monday to Friday. From September 2021 the service proposes to offer a part time service as well as a sessional service operating from 09:30am to 2pm each day Monday to Friday.
Premises	Bright Beginnings operates from one of the classrooms in Dromleigh National School that has been suitably adapted to provide an early years service. There is one playroom and adequate children's and adult sanitary accommodation. The children have access to designated outdoor play area located beside the early years service.
Staffing	The service proposes to have two adults who will work directly with the children at all times while the service is in operation and who will both hold a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education.
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 two themes; Governance, and Safety.</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 presented to the Registration Panel for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving continued registration. 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 Deputy 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:

(1)

(a) The requirement has been met.

The service has appointed a person in charge daily and there is a person appointed to deputise if 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:

The requirement has been met.
 (1) Two adults will be working directly with up to a maximum of 19 children in the morning sessional service and it is proposed there will be 2 adults present with the children attending the proposed part time service.
 The adult child ratio for children attending the part time service aged between 2 and 3 years is 1:6 and children from 3 to 6 years is 1:8.
 (8)
 (b) Not applicable as this was not a childminding service.
 (c) Not applicable as this was not a single handed operated sessional service.

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*

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

- (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:	<p>The requirements have been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) There was a selection of age-appropriate toys, games and materials available at child height to facilitate child led learning. The shelves and containers are stocked with a large selection of activities, equipment and play materials that are all functioning and maintained in good repair. There is a designated outdoor play space located beside the premise.</p> <p>(b) There is a designated rest area provided within the playroom with soft seating and soft matting for the children who require to sit and relax during the day. There were sleeping mats with accompanying linen available for children who may require a sleep while attending the service.</p> <p>(2)(a) + (3)(a)</p> <p>There is a designated walled in outdoor play space with gates that will be adequately secured when children are playing outdoors. Work is planned to commence building a partial cover over the existing outdoor play area in August 2021.</p> <p>(3)(b)(4) +(5)</p> <p>Not applicable as the children will have access to an outdoor play area on site.</p>
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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:	<p>To date what is practiced as per the deputy's feedback is that all parents/ guardians provide all meals and snacks for the children attending the service.</p> <p>There is a fridge available in the play room for the storage of perishable items.</p> <p>The children have access to drinking water at all times throughout the day which is brought into the service by the children or sourced from the cold tap accessible from the adult sink in the play room.</p>
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 requirements have been met.

- The main entrance door to the service was adequately secured preventing unauthorised access by an unauthorised person or unsupervised access by a child.
- A fridge was provided to store perishable foods that the parents provide for the two food breaks provided for the children while attending the part time service.
- All toys, materials and equipment that were on the premises were in a proper state of repair and maintained in a clean condition.
- All cleaning equipment and materials are stored in an adequately secured cupboard in the playroom when not in use.
- The fire exit door was unobstructed.
- There was a designated rest/relaxation area consisting of a child sized soft seating for children to rest relax or opt out of activities.
- The openable windows in the playroom and toilet facilities are all located at adult height.
- There was thermostatically controlled warm water, antibacterial liquid soap dispensers and paper towels available at the wash hand basin for hygienic hand washing and hygienic hand drying.
- Lidded bins were provided for used paper towels in the playroom, children’s and adult sanitary facilities.
- Wall hooks were provided in the play room for the storage of children’s coats and bags.
- Window blind cords were adequately secured and out of children’s reach.
- The outdoor play area was adequately secured by walls and locked gates.

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 copy of an up-to-date certificate in first aid for children in respect of one of the adults was available.

(2)

(a) The suitably equipped First Aid box was located on a shelf at adult height out of children’s reach in the playroom.

(b) The First Aid box will be available in the play room 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) The requirement has been met in relation to the provision of a form for recording proposed monthly fire drills. (b) Fire equipment was available on the premises and there was a record demonstrating that it was serviced within the last year. A wired fire alarm system was available on the premises and there was a record demonstrating that it was serviced recently. (4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the premises in the event of a fire was available.
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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 number of children covered in the service is adequate.
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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 on the following. (a) There was no structural issues evident in the facility. The playroom and sanitary facilities were observed to be maintained in good condition. (b) The main door to the service is secured by a locked key to reduce the risk of unauthorised access to the service and unsupervised access by a child. The outdoor play area was adequately secured with walls and locked gates. (c)
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

- Adequate lighting was provided in the form of natural lighting from windows and supplemented by artificial electric fluorescent lighting which were fully encased with protective covers.
- Adequate ventilation was provided in the form of several openable windows in the playrooms and in the children's and adult sanitary facilities.
- The radiators were thermostatically controlled to a maximum surface temperature of 50°C. The playroom temperature was within the normal accepted range of between 18° to 20° Celsius.

(d) The premise appeared clean and in good repair with itemised cleaning schedules in place.

(e) There are 2 toilets and 2 wash hand basins in place for the children. There is 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin in place for the adult. Thermostatically controlled hot water to a temperature of 43° Celsius, liquid soap and paper towels were available for effective cleaning. There was adequate adult and children's sanitary facilities in the premise.

The service was serviced by a private sewage system.

The water source was from a public supply.

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.
- (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 sessional pre-school service, and
 - 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).
- (5) A registered provider of a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a minimum of 2 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) +(2) There was one playroom provided which measured 35.38 meters square. This playroom had sufficient floor space for 19 children to attend the service on a sessional basis and 15 children between 3 and 6 years to attend at any one time on a part time basis when the sessional service is finished each day. The adult child ratio for children

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

attending the part time service aged between 2 and 3 years is 1:6 and children from 3 to 6 years is 1:8.

(3) There was adequate space provided for the maximum number of children to attend. The proposed plan always includes 2 staff in attendance at all times while the part time service is in operation. The number of children in attendance in the part time service will depend on the age group of the children in attendance each day. The adult child ratio of children aged between 2 and 3 years is 1:6 and 3 and 6 years is 1:8

(4) Not applicable.

(5) Not applicable