

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D:** TU2019DL003

**Name of Service** Cloghan Childcare Centre, Curam Leanai an Clochan

**Address of Service:** An Clochan, Leifear, Contae Dun a nGall. F93 KO28.

**Email Address:** cloghanchildcare@gmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Ms. Gwendoline Furey

<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sessional</b>	<input 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>	Change from Part Time Service to Full Day Care. Increase numbers attending from 22 to 36 at any given time by adding an extra playroom. Age ranges from 2 to 6 years to 0 to 6 years of age.
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	Proposed 36 children attending at any given time.
<b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b>	All changes to be approved
<b>Registered change:</b>	Change in Service Type from Part Time to Full Day Care. Change in hours of operation from 9:30 - 14:30 to 08:00 - 18:00. Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 22 to 36. Change in age profile from 2 – 6 years to 0 – 6 years

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	3	0	0	8	2	0	2	3
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**Inspection undertaken by:** Mr. S. Meehan and Ms. N. McEndoo.

**Title:** Early Years Inspectors.

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Clinical & Administration Building, Block A - (1st Floor-Green Corridor), Merlin Park Hospital, Galway.

**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 36 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	1 <sup>st</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>The service currently offers a part-time daycare service and proposes to operate a full day care from 8 am to 6 pm and the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE) pre-school care programme. The service caters for pre-school children aged between 2 to 6 years of age. Additionally, the service will offer a school aged service.</p> <p>Currently Classroom 2 caters for 22 pre-school children aged 2 ½ to 5 years of age. It is proposed that classroom 1 which is new will cater for 14 children aged 0 to 2½ years of age.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>This rural service is based in the village of Cloghan, near the town of Ballybofey, Co. Donegal. The pre-school comprises of two playrooms namely – Classroom 1 and Classroom 2, which are in two prefabricated units. Quiet rest areas are provided in each of the playrooms to facilitate a child to rest. The service has a dedicated sleep room for children under 2 years to rest or sleep. The premises has two kitchens, one in each prefabricated unit with an arrangement where the main hot meal of the day is supplied by the local adjoining health care centre kitchen. The pre-school children have access to outdoor play areas to the front, rear, and side of the pre-school, for children’s physical play activities, exploration, and fresh air. There is a secured play area, football pitch and the service have access to a public play area adjacent to the service.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The registered provider is not on the premises daily. There is a manager, the designated person in charge and a named deputy manager. The registered provider has recruited an adequate number of adults to work directly with the children who hold at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework.</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</p>

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	<p>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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge who was 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 deputy.

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>	<p>(1) The registered provider proposes to maintain the minimum ratio of adults to children. There will always be two adults on the premises during the operation of the service.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes that there will be thirty-six pre-school children, aged between 0 to 6 years, being cared for by 7 staff members in the proposed new full day care pre-school.</p>

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.*
- (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*

**Requirement met:**

The requirement has been met.

- (1)(a) There are adequate and suitable facilities in the proposed playroom, with defined interest areas provided for play. The registered provider intends to develop these interest areas further depending on the child’s interests, emerging needs learning stories, and developing themes. On the day of inspection, play equipment and materials were inviting and easily accessible in the proposed new playroom.
- (b) The service will be catering for children between 0 to 6 years of age and a designated sleep room with 7 cots are available for children under 2 years of age and children over 2 years of age have access to 12 stackable beds for rest and sleep.
- (3)(a) The service had an outdoor play area to the back side and front of the premises with a secured area. The preschool children also have access to a football pitch and a local public play area. There is a selection of sports equipment, ride on toys and a sensory play area.

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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>There is evidence of the policy on healthy eating and a 3-week menu plan.</p> <p>The manager advised that healthy eating will be promoted within the service.</p> <p>For children attending full day care, food will be prepared, cooked off site and reheated in the service kitchen.</p> <p>Clean and safe drinking water at drinks stations will be always available and accessible to children.</p> <p>There will be a designated fridge for the safe storage of perishable food items from children’s lunch boxes, for their snack times in the two designated kitchens.</p>
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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met: -</p> <p>The main entrance doors to the two playrooms were secured to prevent the public having access to children and ensuring children could not exit the service unsupervised.</p> <p>Heavy equipment and furnishings were anchored appropriately.</p> <p>Cables were out of reach of children or secured.</p> <p>The registered provider had a fridge for the storage of perishable items from children’s lunch boxes in the two kitchens.</p> <p>There were adequate sanitary facilities available for preschool children and two designated nappy changing areas with disposable aprons, gloves and a leak proof self-sealing foot operated bin for the disposal of nappies.</p> <p>Hand washing facilities were provided with a supply of warm water, liquid hand soap and disposable paper hand towels. Thermostatically controlled warm water not exceeding 43° C was available to facilitate hygienic hand washing without risk of scalding the children.</p>
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	<p>There was a cleaning schedule available and a sample cleaning record.</p> <p>The doors into the kitchens, staff toilet and storage areas had a system of security and were thereby inaccessible to the children.</p> <p>All cleaning agents and equipment were stored inaccessible and out of children's reach.</p> <p>A health and safety policy was available which included a risk assessment system. The service risk assessment system ensured toys and equipment were checked to ensure that they were not broken, in a clean condition and maintained in a good state of repair.</p> <p>There were no pits or ponds in the outdoor pre-school area to cause any risk of danger to pre-school children.</p> <p>A pest control company was employed to monitor for any activity in the grounds or in the service.</p>
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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) Seven staff working in the pre-school service have a current first aid responder qualification.</p> <p>(2)(a) There was a suitably equipped first aid box stored in an easily accessible conspicuous position in the pre-school.</p> <p>(b) The first aid box was readily available with content items in date.</p>
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### 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) Arrangements were in place to record monthly fire drills.

(b) A record of the number, type, and maintenance of firefighting equipment in the service was on file. Records indicated that the firefighting equipment was annual serviced on the 24/08/2023. Records indicated that the fire detection system was annual serviced on 24/08/2023.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed at the entrance to 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 service had insurance for a full day care service for up to 36 children and included the following –

- public liability insurance.
- insurance against fire and theft.
- buildings insurance.

The insurance was valid until the 27 March 2024.

### 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,

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- (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 manager of the service confirmed that there were no known structural defects.
- (b) The proposed outdoor play area and pre-school play area were safe and secure.
- (c) The playroom and sanitary areas were well lit and ventilated. The lighting was both natural and artificial. The warm water in the proposed designated sanitary area was maintained at a safe temperature and no greater than 43°C.
- (d) The proposed playroom had play and work equipment that was clean and in good repair. Cleaning equipment was safely stored away from the pre-school children in designated inaccessible secured storage areas. There was a proposed cleaning schedule available for inspection. From observation, the proposed play area was maintained in a clean and hygienic condition.
- (e) The proposed new playroom had a designated children’s toilet and wash hand basin. Liquid soap dispensers and paper hand towels in designated dispensers were within easy access to a pre-school child. Foot pedal lidded bins were provided in the sanitary area. Additionally, there were two nappy changing areas and an adult toilet with designated 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.
- (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.
- (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:**

The requirement has been met.

(1)&(2) Adequate floor space is provided in the proposed playroom for the free movement of children to work and play.

(4)(a)&(b) The measurement of the proposed playroom room:

Playroom 1: Floor space is 48 sq. meters; the service can cater for 14 on a full day care basis.  
 Playroom 2: Floor space is 65 sq. meters; the service can cater for 22 on a sessional basis.

**Minimum Space Requirements**

**On a Sessional basis 1.818 square metres of clear floor space per child is required.**

**Full Day Care Service or Part-time Day Care Service**

(1)	(2)	(3)
	AGE RANGE	CLEAR FLOOR SPACE
1	0 – 1 year	3.5 square metres
2	1-2 years	2.8 square metres
3	2- 3 years	2.35 square metres
4	3- 6 years	2.3 square metres