

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2020KY001

Name of Service Caherslee Childcare Services

Address of Service: Alandale House, Pluckeen, Caherslee, Tralee, Co. Kerry

Email Address: Smith.lorraine77@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Lorraine Smith

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

Proposed change: Change in the number of children that can be accommodated from 16 to 22.

Proposed Number of Children: 22

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Approve change fully

Registered change: Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 16 to 22

Date of Inspection: 0 7 0 6 2 0 2 4

Inspection undertaken by: N. Reidy

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Áras an Phobail, Deans Lane, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status: Registered Full Day Care Service for 22 Children

Date of Registration 18th June 2024

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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).

Description of Service	Caherslee Childcare Services is a privately run service providing full day care, part-time and sessional care and facilitates the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme. The service currently operates Monday to Friday between the hours of 08:30am and 6 pm daily. The service is registered to cater for children between the age of 2 years and 6 years. Care for school aged children is not provided.
Premises	The premises operates from the ground floor of a 2-storey building in the urban area of Caherslee, Tralee. At the rear of the premise an extension consisting of wooden framed walls and a window was constructed onto the registered playroom to accommodate the proposed additional 6 children. Extensive work on expanding and refurbishing the outdoor play area has taken place at the rear of the building. The building named the Zen Den in the outdoor area is used for storage of the children's protective outdoor clothing, storage of supplies and a sanitary rom with a nappy changing unit, toilet and wash hand basin.
Staffing	There are currently 6 adults attached to the early years' service who are involved in the direct care of the children. The registered provider is service based and provides relief in the service as required
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 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 registered provider who was present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment

	<p>Child and Family Agency Act 2013</p> <p>Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016</p>	<p>Version 05 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC)</p>	<p>2 of 9</p>
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(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 has been met.

(1) The service has a designated person in charge and there is a named person who is able 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 has been met.

(1) The registered provider confirmed that an adequate number of adults will work directly with the children on a daily basis. The names of the adults proposed to work directly with the children were furnished to the inspector.

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

Requirement met:

(1) The requirement has been met.

(a) Having regard to the number of attending the service, their respective ages and the

amount of time they spend on the premises, there were adequate and suitable facilities for children to play indoors.

- The playroom including the addition to accommodate the proposed 6 children was laid out with a range of play materials and resources which were age appropriate and easily accessed from low-level shelving throughout. The registered provider informed the inspector when asked that additional toys and play materials are in storage and available to rotate.
- The children have direct access via the double fire escape doors directly to the outdoor area. Extensive work on re-furbishing the outdoor area was carried out since the last inspection. Located directly off the playroom there is an overhead Perspex roof with an artificial grass surface underfoot leading on to a large, grassed area underfoot leading to a garden area, currently undergoing planting, it was enclosed with fencing and a gate. Within the outdoor area there was a range of toys and play equipment that included for example, climbing frames, a see-saw, a basket-ball ring on a stand with basketballs, a covered sand table, kitchens, a tuff tray used for messy play activities, blocks, picnic benches, low level tables and chairs, a stationary timber bus, a number of wooden stepping blocks, a playhouse and outdoor protective clothing for the children.

(b) There were 4 stackable beds on the premises with associated linen. The registered the area in the playroom allocated for the placement of the beds. There was a variety of soft seating, single chairs, soft matting a bean provided for the children to rest/ relax and opt out of an activity as they so wished.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

- The service has a healthy eating policy.
- The parents/guardians of the children attending will provide the food for mealtimes. The registered provider informed the inspector the service will have fruit, bread, cereals and milk in stock should any child in attendance require additional food.
- A fridge, sinks, microwave, dishwasher and electric hob are in place in upstairs kitchen.
- Drinking water will be freely available via a water dispenser located in the playroom.

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.

- The cleaning agents were stored out of the reach of the children in the secured locker unit in the playroom.
- The kitchenette downstairs was secured.
- Secure child safety gates were in place to render the stairs in the entrance hallway inaccessible and on the playroom entrance door to render the hallway inaccessible to children unsupervised.
- The double fire doors in the playroom opened directly out to the outdoor play area were unobstructed.
- The cables observed were secured.
- Medication was observed stored in the original containers within a high-level cupboard in the playroom.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The external door to the building was appropriately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorized access. • The outdoor space was fenced to prevent a child gaining unsupervised access to the roadway and to prevent unauthorized access to the area.
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>The completed First Aid Responder (FAR) training certifications were furnished to the inspector in respect of 4 staff members working in the service with the children.</p> <p>(2)(a)</p> <p>There was a suitably equipped first aid box provided, it was stored in a high-level cupboard in the playroom out of the reach of the children.</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>The suitably equipped first aid box was available in the service.</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) The registered provider furnished the inspector with a template document to record the monthly fire drills in the service. The last recorded fire drill took place on 16/05/'24.

(b) The number, type and maintenance records of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms was maintained. The maintenance records for the fire extinguishers and for the smoke alarms was 04.06.'24.

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

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.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to the inspection. 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)
 - Visually the premise appeared to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b)
 - The premise was safe and secure.
- (c)
 - The lighting in the playroom area was provided artificially and supplemented by natural lighting via the windows and the glazed panels on the fire exit doors. There was a window in each of the sanitary rooms.
 - The playroom and sanitary rooms were ventilated by means of the openable windows.
 - The radiators were thermostatically controlled, there was a wall mounted electric heating in the nappy changing sanitary accommodation located in the Zen Den.
- (d)
 - A cleaning schedule template was on file for the premise fixtures and fitting.
- (e)
 - There were 2 toilets and 2 wash hand basins allocated for the children’s use located within the playroom. There was 1 toilet, 1 nappy changing unit and a wash hand basin located in the Zen Den building. The sanitary facilities allocated for the staff, that is 1 toilet, and 1 wash hand basin was upstairs in the building. A supply of soap, disposable paper hand towels and pedal operated lidded bins were provided at each of the sinks.

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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.
- (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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

Adequate clear floor space was provided in the service.

(2)

The available floor space meets the minimum floor space requirement for children who will be attend the service. The total floor space measured a total of 45.60 m².

(4)

It is proposed by the registered provider that the service will contemporaneously provide both a sessional and part-time full day care service. Adequate floor space is available.