

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D:** TU2021WX003

**Name of Service:** Rainbow Childcare

**Address of Service:** Unit R6, Clonard Village, Wexford

**Email Address:** Ktlowney@hotmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Ms. Kate Lowney

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

**Proposed change:** Increase the numbers of the children attending from 37 to 110 children.  
Change of address from Pembrokestown, Whiterock Hill, Wexford, to Unit R6, Clonard Village, Wexford  
change of age profile from 1-6 years to 6 months – 6 years

**Proposed Number of Children:** 110

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** 110 children, Age 0 to 6 at UR6, Clonard Village, Wexford.

**Registered change:** Change in Number of Children from 37 to 11 children  
Change in Age Profile from 1-6 years to 6 months – 6 years  
Change in Address from Pembrokestown, Whiterock Hill, Wexford, to Unit R6, Clonard Village, Wexford

**Date of Inspection:** 1 3 0 9 2 0 2 4

**Inspection undertaken by:** C. Ryan

**Title:** Early Years Inspector

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Early Years Inspector,  
Tusla Child and Family Agency, Ely Hospital, Ferrybank  
Wexford

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### Rationale for Inspection:

Increase in number of children, change of address, change in age profile

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	<b>Registered Full Day Care for 110 Children</b>
<b>Date of Registration</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b>

### 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>Rainbow Childcare currently operates as a full day care preschool service for children aged 1 to 6 years. The service is open Monday to Friday and can accommodate up to 37 children at any one time. The purpose of Rainbow Childcare is to provide quality, affordable early education to children.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase the numbers of the children attending from 37 to 110 children.</li> <li>• change of address from Pembrokestown, Whiterock Hill, Wexford, to Unit R6, Clonard Village, Wexford</li> <li>• change of age profile from 1-6 years to 6 months – 6 years</li> </ul>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The new premises is a purpose-built childcare facility located within a large residential estate. The service consists of seven playrooms and ancillary services over two floors. The registered provider proposes to open the three playrooms on the ground floor initially and transfer all children and staff from the Whiterock hill service. The four playrooms upstairs will be completed and opened at enrollments and service need dictates. On the ground floor there is an office, a kitchen, a buggy store, utility room, a sleep room, a disability toilet and visitor toilet. There are sufficient toilets and nappy changing units. An outdoor play area is available to the rear of the premises and is fully enclosed and secure.</p>

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Staffing</b>	The registered provider employs a manager as the daily designated person in charge daily. The staff working directly with the children, will hold the minimum Level 5 and above qualifications in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Qualifications Framework.
<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 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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	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

**(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 service employs a manager who is the designated person in charge and works directly with the children attending the service. A second named staff member is available to deputise as required. The registered provider will also be present on the premises at intervals during the day. The registered provider plans to recruit additional staff to ensure the adult to child ratios are met in line with the increase in numbers of children attending.

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 registered provider is familiar with the Child Care Act 1991 (early years services) Regulations 2016, Schedule 6 Adult: Child ratios and will ensure that there are always adequate numbers of staff working directly with the children attending the service. The service currently employs nine staff.

**Summary Comment:**

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:**

(1)(a)

The service consists of seven rooms over two floors. On the ground floor there are three playrooms which will open initially. The four room upstairs will be opened as the number of children increases.

The three rooms will provide sufficient space for the proposed changes. The playrooms were warm, spacious and lit by natural light. The rooms were set up and equipped with toys, materials and products suitable to the ages and stage of development of the children who will attend the service.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(1)(b)

Provisions were in place for children to sleep and/or rest if required while attending the service. There was a designated sleep room located directly off the baby room which has space for five cots. Located within the toddler room there is a quiet area which is set up with sleep beds as needed during the day. The wobbler room has a quiet corner with mats. Bed clothes will be supplied and laundered by the service.

(2)(b)

Children had access to a large fully enclosed garden to the rear of the premises. The area has large spaces covered with bark mulch and a concrete footpath. There is an enclosed sand house, climbing frames and mud kitchen.

### 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:

A fully equipped kitchen is available in the service. Parents will initially be asked to supply the snacks and food for the children. The registered provider plans to supply all the food and snacks for the children once the transfer to the new premises is complete. The registered provider has a menu that consists of the children's favorite and most popular dinners. Children will be offered breakfast, mid-morning snack, a hot dinner and a mid-afternoon snack.

# 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.*

<p><b>Requirement Met:</b></p>	<p><b>Infection Control:</b></p> <p>There was warm running water throughout the service, which did not exceed the 43°C.</p> <p>There were designated children’s toilets available adjacent to each playroom. Designated staff toilets were also provided on the premises.</p> <p><b>Administration of medication:</b></p> <p>There was a policy on the safe administration of medications to children attending the service.</p> <p><b>General Safety:</b></p> <p>The outdoor area was fully enclosed to the rear of the premises.</p> <p><b>Safe sleep:</b></p> <p>The service has a safe sleep policy and a method for recording sleep checks in place.</p>
<p><b>Requirement not met:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There was no liquid soap and paper hand towels for hand drying</li> <li>2. There were no nappy changing units installed</li> <li>3. There was no area for the safe storage of medication</li> <li>4. There were no facilities to limit window openings</li> <li>5. Waterproof mattress covers were required for the cots</li> </ol>
<p><b>Response from provider:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Liquid soap, toilet paper and hand towel dispensers have been installed throughout the premises and a contract is in place.</li> <li>2. Nappy changing units have been installed.</li> <li>3. Medication is stored in secure boxes the refrigerator in the main kitchen which has now been installed.</li> <li>4. Restrictors for windows are being fitted in the coming week.</li> <li>5. Waterproof mattresses are now in use in the cots.</li> </ol> <p>Photographs sent to the early years inspector.</p>
<p><b>Summary Comment:</b></p>	<p>The registered provider submitted a response that was satisfactory.</p>

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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times

**Requirement met:**

- (1)  
 Documentary evidence was available to demonstrate that staff were currently trained in first aid for children and will be present on the premises at all times.
- (2)(a)(b)  
 A suitable and fully equipped first aid box was available on the premises and stored in an easily accessible place in the playroom.

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:**

- (1)(a)  
 The registered provider was familiar with the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills.
- (b)  
 Fire-fighting equipment and smoke alarms were present, and contracts are in place for the regular service and maintenance of same.

**Requirement not met:**

- (4)  
 A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was not displayed in the playrooms and the fire assembly point was not clearly identified.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

<b>Response from provider:</b>	(4) Notice for the evacuation of the premises are now in place and fire assembly points are clearly identified. Photographs sent to the early years Inspector.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	The requirement of the regulation is met.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

**Requirement met:** An insurance certificate to demonstrate that insurance was in place was available.

### 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 premise and outdoor spaces appear to be of sound and stable structure.

(c) The playrooms are lit and ventilated by natural light through openable windows on external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. All sanitary accommodation had windows or mechanical ventilation for natural ventilation. The heating system consisted of radiators which could be thermostatically controlled so that the surface temperature of the radiators in each room does not exceed 50°C.

(d) The premises were clean, well maintained and in good repair. A cleaning policy and schedule was available for the service.

(e) The service had adequate sanitary accommodation for the number of children and staff who will be present in the service at any one-time. There are twelve toilets with

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	wash hands basins and three nappy changing units available to the children. Staff have access to three staff toilets.
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	(b) The entrance to the service was not safe and secured. The front door required securing. (c) Heaters were not installed in some areas to ensure adequate heating. (d) Door frames and skirting boards required final coats of paint in some areas.
<b>Response from provider:</b>	(b) The entrance is now secured. (c) The electrician will install the final heaters within the week. (d) The final painting will be completed within 2 weeks.  Photographs of the secured entrance door with electronic keypad sent to the early years inspector.
<b>Summary comment:</b>	The registered provider submitted a response that was satisfactory.

### 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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	All rooms were remeasured during the inspection.  (1) There is adequate clear floor space available to accommodate the increase in numbers to 110 children who will attend the service.  (2) The rooms are spacious and bright with ample clear floor space for the number of children who will attend the service.  <b>Downstairs:</b>  Room 1: Baby room: 23.5 sq. meters: max 6 babies under 1 year.
-------------------------	---

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<p>Room 2: Wobbler room: 31.2 sq. meters (room only) 47.7 sq. meters (including sleep area)</p> <p>Room 3: Toddler Room: 40 sq. meters</p> <p><b>Upstairs:</b></p> <p>Room 4: 75 sq. meters</p> <p>Room 5: 37.8 sq. meters</p> <p>Room 6: 40 sq. meters</p> <p>Room7: 33 sq. meters.</p>
--	--