

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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| Tusla I.D: | TU2022LK004 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of Service | Sugradh Knocklong | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Address of Service: | Knocklong National School, Knocklong, Co Limerick | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Email Address: | sugradhknocklong@hotmail.com | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of Registered Provider: | Michael O Sullivan | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Type of Proposed Service: | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Full Day Care</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Part-Time</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Sessional</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drop-In</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Childminding</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Temporary</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> | Full Day Care | <input type="checkbox"/> | Part-Time | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sessional | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Drop-In | <input type="checkbox"/> | Childminding | <input type="checkbox"/> | Temporary | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Full Day Care | <input type="checkbox"/> | Part-Time | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sessional | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | | |
| Drop-In | <input type="checkbox"/> | Childminding | <input type="checkbox"/> | Temporary | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | | |
| Proposed change: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in Number of Children that can be Accommodated – from 11 to 22. Change in Number of staff from 2 to 3. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Proposed Number of Children: | 22 children | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Recommended Change Following Inspection: | All changed to be approved | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Registered change: | Change in Number of Children that can be Accommodated from 11 to 22. Change in Number of staff from 2 to 3. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date of Inspection: | 0 6 0 7 2 0 2 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inspection undertaken by: | J Ryan | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Title: | Early Years Inspector | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: | 2nd Floor Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

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| Registration Status: | Registered Sessional Service for 22 Children |
| Date of Registration | 25 th August 2023 |

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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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).

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| Description of Service | Sugradh Knocklong is a registered sessional service located 1km outside the village of Knocklong in Co. Limerick. Operational hours are Monday to Friday 9.20hrs to 12.20hrs for 38 weeks of the year with a maximum of 11 children attending. The service operates from a room within the national school. |
| Premises | There is one playroom indoors and the service has sole access to a large outdoor play area located at the side of the service. |
| Staffing | Two staff are employed in the service, and both have childcare qualifications. The service proposes to employ a third member of staff should the numbers of children attending increase to 22. |
| 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 person in charge who facilitated the inspection. |

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named person who can 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.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—

(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) There will be an adequate number of adults working in the service as it proposes to have two adults supervising a maximum of 22 preschool ECCE children at any one time. Of the two staff presently working in the service one staff member is employed under the Access and Inclusion Model. Should a third staff member not be available the maximum number of children allowed attend will be 19.

(c)A second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance if required is available on site in the event of an emergency.

(8)(c)Not applicable as this is not a service that operates single handedly.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The playroom was well equipped with play materials and equipment and the areas of interest were sufficiently developed. The following items were available; • A selection of dress up clothes and a mirror for imaginative play.

- Wooden blocks and open-ended play materials
- An art easel with a selection of paint accessible to the children to support creative play.
- Jigsaws • Farm animals, tractors, cars to support childrens emergent interests. Buggies, cots, prams and real type play materials for the kitchen home corner.
- Additional literacy and numeracy materials.
- Outdoor play equipment.

(2)(b) A safe secure outdoor space is available on site for outdoor play for the children.

Requirement not met:

The requirement has not been met.

(1)(b) Suitable facilities for pre-school children to rest during the day were not available in the quiet/rest corner. The rest area consisted of two chair style bean bags and two flat floor style bean bags. There was limited support in the bean bags as the beans needed

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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| | to be refilled. Should the numbers of children increase to 20 the size of the rest area will need to be increased and the seating provided will need to provide additional support and comfort. |
| Response from Provider: | A couch has been ordered for the quiet/rest corner and is due to be delivered on 29/08/2023. A forward facing bookshelf has also been provided to display books. |
| Summary Comment: | The actions as stated by the registered provider have addressed the requirements under regulation 20. |

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.

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| Requirement met: | <p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>A healthy eating policy was available in the service.</p> <p>A refrigerator was available for the storage of perishable foods.</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.

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| Requirement met: | <p>The requirement has been met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entrance door was secured preventing unauthorised access and preventing a child leaving the service. • The emergency exit door was unobstructed. • Drinking water was readily available to the children. • Storage for cleaning materials and equipment was provided in a secure area in a cupboard out of reach of the children. |
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water temperatures at the wash hand basins were not recorded on inspection as the system is linked to the national school and the heating was not switched on at the time of the inspection. The registered provider was advised that water temperatures must be maintained at or below 43°C. • There were no window blinds therefore the cords did not pose a potential hazard. • Toys and play equipment were safe for the age of children using them. • The heating system was serviced in August 2022. |
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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.

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| Requirement met: | <p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The two staff currently working in the service were trained in first aid for children and will be immediately available to the children proposing to attend the pre-school service.</p> <p>(2)(a) The First Aid box was available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.</p> |
| Requirement not met: | <p>The requirement has not been met.</p> <p>(2)(b) A suitably equipped first aid box for children was not available for the proposed number of children allowed attend. There were insufficient numbers of sterile eye pads, wound dressings, triangular bandages and burns dressings.</p> |
| Response from Provider: | A fully restocked first aid kit will be available by 29/08/2023. |
| Summary Comment: | The actions as stated by the registered provider have addressed the requirements under regulation 25. |

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 any fire drill that takes place in the premises.
- (b) The number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises was available. Fire extinguishers were last service in August 2022.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire was displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises. The fire assembly point was clearly identified and visible.

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 Insurance certificate for the service was available with an expiry date of 27/03/2024 covering 22 children on a sessional basis.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.

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| Requirement met: | The requirement has been met. The premises was: (a) Sound and stable structure. (b) Safe and secure. (c) Adequately lit, heated and ventilated. (d) Cleaned, maintained and repaired. |
| Requirement not met: | The requirement has not been met. The premises was not, (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities for the proposed increase in numbers of children allowed attend the service. There is only one toilet and one wash hand basin available for 22 children. The proposed additional facilities were not suitable as they will be shared with the boys in the National School. |
| Response from Provider: | An additional toilet and wash hand basin has been provided for the preschool children. |
| Summary Comment: | The actions as stated by the registered provider have addressed the requirements under regulation 29. |

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).*
- (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) Sufficient clear floor space is available in the premises for the number of children proposing to attend the pre-school service.
- (2) The measurements of the Playroom were recorded as 10.8 x 6.9 meters = 74.52 sq. meters Total space available is 74.52 sq. meters.
- (3) A minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child proposing to attend the service.