

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2023CC002
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Name of Service:	Curious Minds Rusheen
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Address of Service:	Rusheen National School, Coachford, Rusheen, Cork P12 C981
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Email Address:	omahony.marie@yahoo.ie
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Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Marie Sheehy
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sessional	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed service type:	Full Day Care
Proposed Number of Children:	22
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	17 full day care children, rising to 22 children during sessional times. Children aged from 2 years to 6 years of age from 7 am until 6.00 pm.
Registered service:	Registered Full Day / Part Time / Sessional Service for 22 children (Max 17 Full Day Care).

Date of Inspection:	0	9	0	8	2	0	2	3
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Inspection Undertaken by:	E. Friel
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	134 Bank Place, Mallow, Cork. P51 EC59
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Rationale for Inspection
Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day / Part Time / Sessional Service for 22 children (Max 17 Full Day Care).
Date of Registration:	25 th August 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).

Description of Service	Curious Minds Rusheen proposes to operate as a private full day care service providing early years care and education for 22 children aged 2 years to 6 years of age. The proposed opening hours are from 7.00 am until 6 pm, 52 weeks of the year. The service proposes to operate the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme between the hours of 9.30 am and 12.30 pm, 38 weeks of the year while the school is in operation. A breakfast club is available from 7.00 am until 9.00 am and an afterschool service is available from 2.00 pm until 6.00 pm.
Premises	Curious Minds Rusheen proposes to operate from one of four classrooms situated in Rusheen National School, located four miles Northeast of the town of Macroom in the rural area of Rusheen in County Cork. There are three toilets available for use by the service, two children’s toilets and one adult toilet, located opposite the proposed classroom. The proposed service will have shared use of a large ball court, sensory garden located at the side of the service, and a secure outdoor play area at the entrance area to the service.
Staffing	It is proposed that there will be three adults working in the service.
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 four 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 the registering application. The Inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including: clarity; completeness; and, compliance with</p>

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	administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered 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 requirement has been met. (1) (a) The proposed registered provider has ensured that there will be a designated person in charge and a named person available to deputise.
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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 proposes that there will be three adults in the service who will work directly with the children at all times.
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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.

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Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) The classroom is laid out in clearly defined areas with equipment and resources which are age and stage appropriate and are stored on open shelving which is easily accessible to the children. The play equipment and materials are adequate, suitable and maintained in good condition.</p> <p>(b) There is a suitable area where the children can rest and relax. It is furnished with three pouffes, cushions and a number mat on the floor. Stackable beds, bed linen and blankets are available for children who wish to sleep.</p>
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Part V – Care of Children in Pre-School Services

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>This requirement has been met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The healthy eating policy was reviewed and was found to contain all of the core requirements. Parents/guardians are provided with the service’s policies and procedures prior to their child starting in the service. • It is proposed that all snacks and meals will be provided by the parents/guardians. The proposed registered provider is aware that children attending a service for over five hours require two meals, one of which should be hot, along with two snacks. The proposed parents/guardians will be providing the hot meal and the service proposes to re-heat the food in the available microwave. • Cutlery and crockery, suitable for the age and stage of development of the proposed children, are available in the service along with water. • The registered provider has a supply of alternative snacks and meals available, if required. • A fridge/freezer is available for storing perishable food.
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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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

GENERAL SAFETY:

- All fire doors, including the main entrance service fire exit door, are fitted with thumb twist cylinders on the inside preventing unauthorised adults entering the building from the outside.
- The two internal classroom doors are secured preventing the children from accessing unsafe areas.
- All storage heaters were fitted with guards preventing children from burns.
- The two openable windows were inaccessible to the children preventing them from exiting or falling from them.
- The two fitted window blinds were fitted with safety devices secured onto hooks on the walls, out of children’s reach.
- All toys and equipment were new, in good condition and well maintained.
- Shelving, containing equipment, was anchored or secured to the walls.
- Flexes and cables from the fridge and microwave were securely stored.
- Storage areas were secured with child proof locks.
- Medication was stored in a cupboard with a child proof lock.
- The outdoor perimeter of the school was secured with a combination of metal fencing with bolted gates and block walls, preventing children leaving the area unsupervised. A stream flowing at the back of the service was made inaccessible with metal fencing.
- The kettle was stored above the sink, out of reach of the proposed children.

INFECTION CONTROL:

- All wash hand basins were fitted with thermostatically controlled hot water, dispensing foam soap, paper towels and pedal operated bins.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nappy changing area had a supply of disposable gloves and aprons. A pedal operated, sealed and lidded nappy bin was also available. • Hooks were available for storing children’s belongings, off the floor area, in the reception area located at the service entrance. • A linen basket was available for the storage of used linen. • Cleaning schedule templates were available detailing the areas requiring cleaning on a daily basis both indoors and outdoors. • Pedal operated bins were available in the classroom and sanitary areas.
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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>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) Certificates on file demonstrated that the proposed designated person in charge and the deputy both have First Aid Responder (FAR) training completed.</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(a) (b) The well stocked first aid box was stored in a child proof locked cupboard under the sink and was available throughout the inspection.</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 firefighting 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) Templates were available for the recording of monthly fire drills in the service.

(b) Written records were available of the number, type and maintenance records of the new firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms. These certificates were dated 28 March 2023 and 21 November 2022 respectively.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were located on the wall of the classroom, at the exit door, leading out to the reception area.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

Insurance received for 24 children on Full Day care/Part Time/ Sessional basis.

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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:

- (a) The registered provider stated that the service was of sound and stable structure.
- (b) The main entrance door to the service was secured ensuring that unauthorised adults could not gain entry, and the proposed children could not exit unsupervised. The outdoor perimeter of the school is secured with a combination of metal fencing with bolted gates and a concrete wall. A stream, located at the back of the fairy garden, was made inaccessible with metal fencing and the large ball court is fully enclosed.
- (c) The classroom has both natural and artificial lighting. There are four suspended tubular covered lights and four windows. The light can be adjusted with one of the two light switches and there are blinds on the two external windows. The reception area and main school hallway are also fitted with covered lights and all areas including the sanitary areas and hallway have access to natural ventilation. The classroom is heated with three electric storage heaters and the room temperature was recorded at 21.8°C on the day of inspection.
- (d) The classroom appeared clean and well maintained with all classrooms in the process of have new flooring installed. The equipment was noted to be new and in good condition and cleaning schedules were in place.
- (e) There are two children’s toilets and one adult toilet (accessible by all) opposite the proposed classroom. The adult toilet is fitted with a nappy changing unit. The service is supplied with a private water system which was sampled in February 2023 and was found to have no issues, and the school has a septic tank.

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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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) Adequate floor space is available for the work, play and movement of 17 full day care children.

(2) The proposed care room was measured at 42.1 m².