

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2023CE002

Name of Service: Curious Minds Cooraclare

Address of Service: Cooraclare National School, Dangananella East, Cooraclare, Co. Clare, V15D728.

Email Address: omahony.marie@yahoo.ie

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Ms. Marie Sheehy

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	X	Part-Time		Drop-In	
	Sessional		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed service type: Full Day Care

Proposed Number of Children: 20

Outcome of the F06 Inspection
Full Day Care Service with 20 pre-school children
07.00 hrs to 18.30 hrs
Monday to Friday

Registered service: Registered Full Day / Part Time / Sessional Service for 20 children.

Date of Inspection: 1 6 0 8 2 0 2 3

Inspection Undertaken by: M. Ní Nialláin

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, Quality and Regulation Directorate, Tusla, Station Road Primary Care Centre, Station Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.

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 20 children.

Date of Registration: 30th 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	This proposed full day care service is in a classroom in Cooraclare primary school. The service proposes to cater for 20 pre-school children who hope to attend from September 2023 onwards. The service will operate from 07.00 to 18.30 hours Monday to Friday. Most of the pre-school children will be attending on a sessional basis.
Premises	The service accommodation comprises of one playroom in a primary school with children's and adult sanitary facilities and nappy changing facilities. A cloakroom and a kitchenette are also available. Parking for drop off and collection of children is to the front of the premises. An outdoor play area is available to the side and rear of the school.
Staffing	The registered provider will not be working in the service. Two adults will be employed 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 the proposed registered provider 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 administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.</p>
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed 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:

(1)(a) There will be a person in charge and a person who is able to deputise always working in the service.

Part III - Management and Staff

 An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach Child and Family Agency	Child and Family Agency Act 2013 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016	Version 04 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYI-IR12.21 F06 FFP (New)	2 of 6
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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)—
(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a childminding service or a sessional pre- service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times.

Requirement met:

- (1) The proposed registered provider will always ensure that there will be an adequate number of adults working directly with the children. There will be two adults employed to care for the pre-school children registered to start attending the service in September 2023.
- (8) (a) The service proposes to operate as a full day care service and the registered provider will ensure that at least two adults are on the premises at all times.

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:

- (1)(a) The registered provider ensured that adequate and suitable play facilities were available for the proposed number of children who will attend the service. The playroom and the outdoor play area was set up and ready for play. An adequate amount of play equipment and materials was available for the pre-school children proposing to attend the service.
- (b) Sleep and rest facilities were available for the pre-school children proposing to attend the service. All children attending will be over two years and seven months of age.
- (3)(a) A suitable, safe and secure outdoor area was available to the side and rear of the premises. There was an outdoor sheltered area with children's tables and seating which accommodated play in all weather conditions.

Part V – Care of Children in Pre-School Services

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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 parents will provide the snacks, meals and drinks for their child. The healthy eating policy was shared with the parents. Storage facilities for perishable items was available in a fridge in the playroom and reheating of food will take place in an adjoining kitchenette.

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:

General Safety:

- The entrance and exit doors into the service were secure thus preventing children from exiting the premises unsupervised and prohibiting unauthorised persons from entering the service.

Infection Control:

- Hand washing facilities were available to the pre-school children attending and the adults working in the service. Hot water, liquid soap, electric hand dryers and paper hand towels were provided.
- The service was clean and well maintained.
- Play materials and equipment were observed to be new and were maintained in a safe condition for the pre-school children attending the service.
- Cleaning agents and equipment were stored in a suitably secured area.

Fire Safety:

- The designated fire exit route from the playroom was accessible.
- A fire evacuation procedure was available demonstrating guidelines on evacuating the service in the event of a fire.
- A fire assembly point was identified in the outdoor area.

Safe Sleep:

- Two sleep beds and a couch were provided in a corner of the playroom. Sleeping children will be monitored and a log maintained.

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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:

- (1) One adult proposing to work in the service had a completed a First Aid Responder course and the second adult had completed a paediatric first aid course.
- (2)(a) The registered provider did ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box was available in a conspicuous position in the playroom.
- (b) The first aid box will be available to the pre-school children at all times.

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) Provision for the recording of monthly fire drills was available.
- (b) Fire fighting equipment was available on the premises, a record of the type, number, and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms was also available.
- (4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire specific to the pre-school service was available.

Par VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

Full insurance received for Full Day Care for 20 children.

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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 premises appeared to be sound and stable.
- (b) The service entrance and exit doors were adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry.
- (c) The service was adequately lit, heated, and ventilated. The lighting was provided by natural and electrical means. Oil fired central heating was the method of heating. The sanitary facilities and playroom were ventilated by natural means of ventilation.
- (d) The service was maintained in a clean manner.
- (e) There was an adequate number of toilets and wash hand basins in the children’s sanitary accommodation for the proposed number of children that will be in attendance. The adult toilet and wash hand basin was also adjacent. Nappy changing facilities were also available.

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:

- (1) The service submitted a plan to the registration office outlining the proposed number of pre-school children that may be accommodated in the playroom as 20 children. The space available measured 37.44m² approximately. The premises can accommodate the proposed number of 20 pre-school children in the playroom.
- (2) The minimum amount of clear floor space per child will be available on the premises as set out in this regulation.