

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2023DS001

Name of Service: Giraffe Childcare - Shackleton

Address of Service: Unit 1, Shackleton Mill, Shackleton Vale, Lucan, Co Dublin

Email Address: info@giraffe.ie

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Dearbhala Cox Giffin

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: 130

Outcome of the F06 Inspection: The registered provider confirmed that the proposal is for children in the 1-6 years age range to be accommodated but proposes to register for the 0-6 years age range to allow for exceptions where a child in this age range may be accommodated. It is proposed that the service will operate from 7.30am to 6.30pm five days a week.

Registered service: Registered Full Day Care Service for 130 Children

Date of Inspection:	0	7	0	6	2	0	2	3
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Inspection Undertaken by: Mary Redmond and Rosemary Brien

Title: Early Years Inspectors

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Trinity Building, IDA Business Park, Bray, Co Wicklow

Rationale for Inspection
Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status: Registered Full Day Care Service for 130 Children

Date of Registration: 12th June 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	The proposed private childcare facility aims to provide full day care for children aged 1 to 6 years of age but may at the discretion of the service manager provide care for children under 1 year of age. The proposed hours of operation are from 7.30am to 6.30pm for 51 weeks of the year.
Premises	The premises is a purpose-built facility located over two levels within a mixed residential development in southwest Dublin. There are ten care rooms and three separate cot rooms provided; a kitchen, office and two staff rooms are also available. There is a large enclosed outdoor space on the premises.
Staffing	The registered provider has appointed a manager and deputy manager for the service. There will be approximately thirty adults employed to work with children when the service is fully operational. Fourteen adults have been recruited and are currently working in other services operated by the registered provider.
Methodology	<p>The inspection was an announced pre-registration inspection to assess suitability of the service for registration under the Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The inspection focused on three areas; Governance, Safety and the Premises.</p> <p>The findings on inspection are based on information obtained through examination of documentation, direct observation, and discussion with relevant staff and are documented in the inspection report and submitted to the registration office for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving registration.</p>
Acknowledgement	The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider, area director and service manager who facilitated the inspection.

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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 registered provider has ensured that there will be a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise when 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) An adequate number of adults have been recruited to work in this service.

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—

(a) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that is registered for the first time on or after 30 June 2016

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service comprises of ten pre-school rooms. The rooms are bright and spacious and suitably laid out to cater for the needs of children who will be attending in each room.

(1)(b) Three cot rooms with a total of thirty cots are located adjacent to care rooms. Suitable sleep mats with appropriate storage for linen are available for children over 2 years of age and rest areas are provided in each room.

(2)(a) There is an enclosed outdoor area provided on the premises. The area which is directly accessed from two care rooms on the ground floor has an impact absorbing covering. There are areas of shelter provided to allow for play outdoors in all weathers. Suitable play equipment and materials are available including fixed

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equipment, messy play tables, an outdoor kitchen and ride-on toys. There were no ponds, pits or other hazards observed in the outdoor area.

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:

The registered provider has employed a cook and there are facilities available for the provision of adequate food and drink for children. A menu plan is available to demonstrate that varied nutritious food will be provided. The registered provider will notify the relevant health authority regarding the preparation of food on the premises.

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.
External doors are secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service. A keypad access system is in place for authorised adults.
The outdoor area is suitably secured.
All window blind cords were secured and windows have been fitted with fire-safe restrictors.
Protective radiator covers have been provided where required.
Emergency exits are clear and fire exit doors have been appropriately secured with thumb-turn locks.
There is provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste including the provision of foot pedal operated bins throughout the service.

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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The proposed manager and deputy manager for the service have current certification in First Aid Responder (FAR) training.

(2)(a) Suitably equipped first aid boxes are available in each care room in the service. They are clearly identifiable and readily accessible.

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 designated person in charge has indicated that fire drills will be carried out.
(1)(b) There is a record available relating to the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the commissioning and servicing of the fire detection and alarm system.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire were displayed conspicuously throughout the service and the fire assembly point was identified.

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Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

Evidence of insurance for the required number of children was available. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the service. Registration of the service is contingent on the registered provider's compliance with Regulation 28.

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 proposed service is located over two levels in a fully adapted unit located within an apartment block and appears to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) There is one point of entry to the service. The front door is secured with keypad access for authorised adults.
The outdoor area is secured to prevent a child leaving the area unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.
- (c) The premises benefits from natural light via windows in all pre-school rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from covered fluorescent ceiling lights in the rooms. Blinds have been fitted to control light levels when required in all rooms.
Thermostatically controlled hot water (which did not exceed 43 degrees Celsius) and radiators are serviced by a central heating system with a centrally controlled air conditioning system also available. Windows in the care rooms can be opened and mechanical ventilation is provided in the sanitary areas. The ambient room temperatures were measured and recorded between 19.5 and 20.7 degrees Celsius.
- (d) Ancillary staff will be employed for cleaning duties and a dedicated team is available for general maintenance and repairs. The premises and its environs are clean and well maintained.
- (e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities have been provided.
There are ten toilets and wash hand basins designated for children's use. There are seven nappy changing units with wash hand basins also available. Three toilets and wash hand basins have been provided for adults, with a separate facility for adults and children with a disability located in the lobby area.

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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 clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of children proposing to attend the service as demonstrated.

(2)

Room	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5	Room 6	Room 7	Room 8	Room 9	Room 10
Clear floor space	34.22 sqm	32.66 sqm	31.56 sqm	30.62 sqm	27.22 sqm	28.94 sqm	28.78 sqm	35.66 sqm	39.06 sqm	36.43 sqm
Proposed age range	1-2 years	1-2 years	1-2 years	2-3 years	2-3 years	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-6 years	3-6 years	3-6 years
Maximum number of children	12	12	11	13	11	10	12	16	17	16

The required floor space is available for 130 children in the proposed age ranges attending on a full day care basis.