

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2023DY003

Name of Service: Little Monkeys Playschool

Address of Service: Jamestown Road, Corner of Seamus Ennis Rd,, Finglas, Dublin 11. D11EK88

Email Address: carol.english3@gmail.com

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Carol English

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

Proposed service type: Part-time and sessional

Proposed Number of Children: 44

Outcome of the F06 Inspection
(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)

As per the registered providers proposal, the new service can cater for,

- 44 preschool children
- attending part-time from 9.30am to 2.30pm or for a sessional service from 9.30am to 12.30pm
- with an age range 2.5 to 6 years old
- the registered provider proposes to commence with a sessional service from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and to cater for school aged children from 1.30pm till 6pm daily.

Registered service: Registered Part Time / Sessional Service for 44 children.

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

Inspection Undertaken by: M Foley

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, Child and Family Agency, 2nd Floor, Unit 4&5 Nexus Building Block 6A, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15.

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Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part Time / Sessional Service for 44 children.
Date of Registration:	28 th August 2023

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	<p>The proposal is to offer a part-time and sessional service for children aged 2.5 to 6 years old for a maximum of 44 preschool children.</p> <p>The service proposes to participate in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme.</p> <p>The service proposes to commence with up to 44 children attending a sessional service from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and to provide a school aged service from 1.30pm to 6pm.</p>
Premises	<p>The premises is spread over 3 floors and has been adapted to provide 2 care rooms, a kitchen, an office and a staff room.</p> <p>On the ground floor there is a large care room and the proposal is to call it ECCE room 1.</p> <p>On the first floor is ECCE room 2.</p> <p>On the 2nd floor there is an office, staff room and a newly installed kitchen.</p>
Staffing	<p>The proposal is to employ a person-in-charge, a deputy person in charge plus 4 childcare staff and a chef.</p> <p>On the day of inspection, the registered provider, the proposed person-in-charge and the proposed named person who can deputise were at the premises.</p>
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 administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.</p>
Acknowledgement	<p>The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and person in charge who were present on the day of the inspection.</p>

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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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met. The proposed designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required were present on the day of inspection.

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)—

(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and

(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:

(1)

The proposal is to assign 4 childcare staff to ECCE room 1 and 2 childcare staff to ECCE room 2. The files for the proposed staff were available for inspection.

(8) (a) and (b)

Not applicable as the proposal is for a part-time and sessional service for a maximum of 44 children and 6 staff members.

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, 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.*
- (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 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, or*
 - (b) *where no such space is provided, the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis to a suitable outdoor space.*
- (4) *Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.*
- (5) *Where pre-school children attending a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre have access to an outdoor space other than such a space specified in paragraph (4), the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable.*

Requirement met:	<p>(1)</p> <p>(a) There are adequate and suitable facilities for a maximum of 44 preschool children to play indoors and outdoors. The proposal is to provide childcare and education to a maximum of 22 children aged 2.5 to 6 years old in each care room.</p> <p>(b) Each care room has an adequate size rest and relaxation area to meet the need of a maximum of 22 children. There were 2 sleep mats available if required in each care room.</p> <p>(2) The service has a large grass outdoor area at the rear of the premises. The area is surrounded by high walls and wooden panel fencing with access through a tall wooden gate which is secure. Outdoor toys will be brought from the premises to support outdoor play.</p> <p>(3), (4) and (5) The proposed new service has an outdoor play area at the rear of the premises, see details at (2) above.</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:

The service has installed a new kitchen on the 3rd floor.
The proposal is to commence with a sessional service and parents will provide their child's lunch.
The service has a chef ready to commence work in the kitchen to prepare a hot meal for the school aged children and for pre-school children who enrol for a part-time hour.
A healthy eating policy is in place and has been shared with parents.
Fridges are available to store perishable foods and extra snacks will be available if needed.
Drinking water and milk will be readily available.

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 entrance/exit door and the fire exits were clear of any obstructions. The fire assembly points were clearly signed with one at the front of the premises and one at the side entrance.
- The small lobby area inside the main entrance door had a sliding lock and a doorbell in place. This provided a safe area for staff to manage arrivals to and collections from the care rooms.
- Both care rooms were well maintained and equipped with an adequate number of age-appropriate tables, chairs, toys and equipment.
- All tall shelving units were secured to the wall to prevent falling.
- The sanitary areas were clean and well maintained. Warm water, facilities for hand drying and liquid soap was available at each wash hand basin. Foot operated pedal bins were available.
- Refrigerators were available and ready for use to store perishable foods including snacks and lunches until needed.
- The outdoor area was securely fenced and clear of hazards.
- A newly installed kitchen available on the third floor was not accessible to the children.

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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:

The registered provider and the proposed deputy person in charge hold a First Aid Responder (FAR) certificate and the expiry date on both was January 2024.

(2)

(a) and (b) A suitably equipped first aid box was available and easily accessible in both care rooms.

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) A fire drill record book was available to record any fire drill that take place at the proposed service.

(b) The maintenance certificate for the firefighting equipment was available and dated 14/08/2023.

The maintenance certificate for the smoke alarms was available and dated 16/08/2023.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The registered provider had available an insurance certificate for the proposed new childcare service.

The details included insurance for a maximum of 44 children at any one time attending a sessional or part-time childcare service. The expiry date on the certificate was 27/03/2024.

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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) On visual inspection, the premises appeared to be a sound and stable structure.
- (b) The entrance gate had a secure lock in place.
The main entrance door to the service was located on the left side of the premises. It had a lock in place that was out of reach of the children and a doorbell insitu. Staff will manage and supervise access to the premises.
The outdoor area was well fenced and secure.
- (c) The premises including the care room, and sanitary areas were well lit and ventilated. A new lighting system with shatterproof covered led strip lighting was in place.
Each room including the sanitary areas had openable windows to allow natural air ventilate the space. Where applicable, safety window restrictors were in place. A portable air conditioning unit was available and ready for use if needed.
A newly installed thermostatically controlled heating system was ready for use. It was not in use on the day of inspection.
- (d) The newly refurbished premises was clean, bright and well maintained. Walls, floors, stairways, furniture, toys and equipment were in good repair.
Cleaning schedule templates were available.
- (e) The premises were equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities to meet the needs of the proposal for a maximum of 22 children in each care room.
In the ground floor sanitary area there were 3 toilets and 3 wash hand basins with liquid soap dispensers and facilities for hand drying.
In the first floor sanitary area there were 4 toilets and 4 wash hand basins with liquid soap dispensers and facilities for hand drying.
Staff sanitary facilities were on the 3rd floor.

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:

- (1) The new service proposal is to accommodate 22 preschool children aged 2.5.to 6 years old in each care room attending a sessional or a part-time service. There is adequate and suitable clear floor space available for work, play and movement of 22 children in both care rooms.

 The clear floor space in the ground floor room is 67.32 m².
 The clear floor space in the 1st floor care room is 70.87 m².
- (2) Not applicable as the service is registered to provider part-time and sessional care.
- (3) The proposed new care rooms meet the 1.181 square metres of clear floor space for 22 children attending a sessional service in both rooms.
 The service is not registered and does not provide a drop-in service.
- (4)(a) and (b). As per (3) above.