

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2023DY004
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Name of Service:	Maple Montessori
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Address of Service:	33 Shanliss Park, Santry, Dublin 9, D09 A038
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Email Address:	Maplemontessori33@gmail.com
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Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Grace Geoghegan
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed service type:	Sessional
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Proposed Number of Children:	11
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Outcome of the F06 Inspection	Sessional service for 11 children from aged 2-6 years, from 8.30am to 12pm.
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Registered service:	Registered Sessional Service for 11 Children
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Date of Inspection:	0	8	0	9	2	0	2	3
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Inspection Undertaken by:	Á Dunne
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Title:	Early Years Inspector
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Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	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 Sessional Service for 11 Children
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Date of Registration:	12 th September 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	Maple Montessori proposes to provide a sessional service for children aged between 2 – 6 years from 8.30am to 12pm. This proposed service will participate in the Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE).
Premises	The service proposes to operate from a purpose-built building to the side of the proposed registered providers residential dwelling located in Dublin 9. There is one large care room with a sanitary facility off the care room. The service has access to two outdoors areas one to the front and one to the rear of the proposed service.
Staffing	The proposed registered provider will manage the service and will facilitate the care of the children in the proposed new care room. An emergency contact person who is familiar with the service will be available to assist the proposed registered provider in the event of an emergency.
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	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider who was present on the day of 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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met.

The proposed registered provider will be the designated person in charge of operating the service, and an emergency contact person who is familiar with the service is available in the event of an emergency.

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:

(1) The requirement has been met.

The proposed registered provider will be the adult working directly with the children attending the proposed pre-school service. There will be 1 adult caring for a maximum of 11 children attending on a sessional basis 8.30am to 12pm, Monday to Friday for 38 weeks. The service proposes to cater for a maximum of 11 children at any one time.

(8)(c) The requirement has been met.

An emergency contact person who is familiar with the service will be available to assist the proposed registered provider in the event of an emergency.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

The care room is bright and laid out with defined areas of interest. These include:

- home corner areas with a play kitchen with appropriate supportive equipment such as toy food, delph, utensils, dolls and supportive equipment such as clothes and rocking chair, doctors set, musical instruments.
- art materials are set up with crayons, colouring pencils and paper.
- messy play area with supporting equipment.
- construction areas with plastic bricks, building blocks, construction clicks, construction cubes, trains and track set.
- small world play areas with cars and trucks, car ramp, garage, two small dolls houses with supportive equipment, animals, dinosaurs.
- tabletop activities of pegs and peg boards, jigsaws, wooden puzzles, number puzzles.
- Montessori materials supporting practical life, sensorial, language, maths and culture.
- Equipment is accessible to the children on low level shelving to cater for the children proposed to attend the service.

(b) A cosy area is provided with soft couch, a rug and books. The service does not provide an overnight pre-school.

(2)(a) The requirement has been met.

The proposed outdoor areas are as follows: one to the front of the service is surrounded by wooden fencing with a surface of artificial grass and one to the rear of the service surrounded by a concrete wall with a grass surface. The outdoor equipment available includes: a playhouse, doll and a buggy, a scooter, ride on toys, trikes, ride in cars, seesaw, sandpit with supporting equipment, a slide and a climbing cube with a slide available.

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 requirement has been met.

A healthy eating policy is in operation within the service. The children will bring in their own meals and snacks. Drinking water is available in the care room and is accessible to the children.

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.

- The entrance gate is secure with an intercom visual system with a release button.
- The emergency exit door of the service is unobstructed.
- The play materials and equipment in the service are stored on stable low level shelving units. The play materials and equipment are observed to be safe and suitable for the developmental age of the proposed children.
- The tables and chairs in the care room, used for activities and mealtimes, are the appropriate height for the age of children accommodated in the room.
- One fridge is available in the care room for the storage of perishable food items for lunches that will be supplied by the children’s parents.
- The outdoor area water supply tap is safe with a covering of soft padding.
- The outdoor area is secured with fencing and high walls to prevent a child from exiting the area and preventing unauthorised access.
- All storage of waste both indoors and outdoors is inaccessible to the children.
- Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap and paper towels are available at the wash hand basin in the care room and in the sanitary facility.
- Adequate ventilation is available in the care room by means of openable windows and doors.
- Windows are fitted with restrictive opening devices.
- A system is available for the safe storage of cleaning agents and equipment.
- Storage presses in the sanitary facility are locked and contents are not accessible to the children.
- Cleaning schedules are in place and the proposed care room and sanitary facility are visually clean on the day of inspection.

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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 requirement has been met.

(1) The proposed registered provider has first aid responder training which expires 15th August 2025.

(2)(a) The first aid box is suitably equipped and are safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position in the care room.

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) A template is available to record fire drills that take place in the service.

(b) A record of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and mains powered smoke alarms is available on the premises. The firefighting equipment and the smoke detection system was last serviced on the 19th June 2023.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the care room of the service.

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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:

The requirement has been met. The service has adequate insurance to cover 11 pre-school children, valid until 30th June 2024.

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 premises appears to be of sound and stable construction.

(b) The entrance gate to the service and the entrance door care room of the service is secure to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service. The fire escape route and door are free of obstacles.

(c) Windows provide natural lighting to the care room. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with protective covers.

The service is heated with a thermostatically controlled radiator mounted to the wall. The sanitary facility is ventilated by an openable window.

(d) The care room is clean, maintained and in good repair. A cleaning schedule is available to ensure regular cleaning of the care room and sanitary facility.

(e) There is one toilet and one handwash basins present in the sanitary facility off the care room and one wash hand basin present in the care room. Warm water not exceeding 43°C, liquid soap and paper hand towels are provided in the sanitary facility and in the care room. Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of paper hand towels.

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art 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.*
- (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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The proposed registered provider ensured that adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the service on a sessional basis.

(3) The proposed new care room has clear floor space of 23.11 square metres available. This is sufficient for the proposed maximum of 11 children to attend the service for sessional care.