

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2023KE001
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Name of Service:	Little Harvard Childcare Ltd.,
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Address of Service:	The Green, Barnhall Meadows, Leixlip, Co. Kildare, W23 W2 NR
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Email Address:	gov@littleharvard.ie adminbarnhall@littleharvard.ie
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Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	James Hargrave
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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:	122 children aged 0-6 years.
Outcome of the F06 Inspection	The service proposes to open a full day care service; age profile 0-6 years; capacity 122 children; open for 51 weeks from 7:00am – 18:30 hours.
Registered service:	Full Day Care Service for 122 Children

Date of Inspection: (Day 1)	2	7	0	3	2	0	2	3
(Day 2)	0	5	0	4	2	0	2	3

Inspection Undertaken by:	T. Duignan and F. Maher (Day 1) F. Maher (Day 2)
Title:	Early Years Inspectors

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Suite 7, Vista Primary Care, Ballymore Eustace Road, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 X38W.
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<b>Rationale for Inspection</b>
<b>Proposed New Service</b>

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 122 Children
Date of Registration:	6 <sup>th</sup> April 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	The proposed private childcare facility, Little Harvard Childcare Ltd., aims to provide full day care service for pre-school children aged 0 to 6 years of age. The proposed hours of operation are between 7:00- 18:30 hours, Monday-Friday for 51 weeks of the year. The service proposes to accommodate a maximum number of 122 children when it is operating at full capacity.
<b>Premises</b>	The proposed premises are located in a purpose-built two-story building within a housing development on the outskirts of Leixlip, Co. Kildare. The accommodation consists of eight care rooms with adjoining sanitary facilities, a cot room, sanitary facilities for adults, a kitchen, staff rest area and two offices,  A secure play area is located to the side of the premises.
<b>Staffing</b>	It is proposed that twenty adults will work in the service.
<b>Methodology</b>	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.  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.
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	The Inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider, Director, Area Manager and person in charge who were 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:

The requirement is met.

(1)(a) The registered provider has ensured that there is a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise if 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.

(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:

The requirement is met.

(1) The registered provider stated that there will be an adequate number of adults working with the children attending the service.

(8)

(b) Not applicable as this is not a childminding service.

(c) Not applicable as this is not a sessional service that operates single handedly.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

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### 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 is met.

(1)

(a) The service comprises of eight pre-school rooms. The rooms are bright, spacious, and planned to cater for the different age ranges of children who will be attending in each room.

Interest areas included library and rest area, home corner, art and craft, small world materials, sensorial materials, puzzles /jigsaws; the areas were equipped with a range of suitable toys and pre-school materials for the different age ranges including a selection of tabletop and manipulative play materials.

The outdoor play area was equipped with a wooden climbing frame with a slide and climbing rope wall, a wooden balance beam structure, child sized picnic benches, smaller plastic activity frames for younger children, water play activity units and ride on play equipment. There was a partially covered area in the outdoor area which enabled it to be used throughout the year particularly during inclement weather.

(b) The rest areas in each pre-school room were cosy and comfortable. They consisted of large wipeable floor mats; child sized comfortable soft sofas placed beside the library areas in each of the care rooms. They were available for any child wishing to take a break from activities and rest.

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	<p>A designated sleep room with 16 cots are available for preschool children aged 0-2 years requiring sleep. There are 12 sleep mats available for children aged over 2 years requiring sleep during the day.</p> <p>(2)(a) A spacious outdoor play area covered in outdoor grass carpet to enable use throughout the year has been provided to the side of the premises.</p> <p>The perimeter area on the left-hand side and front of the premises were enclosed by wooden fencing with two wooden entrance gates secured by a sliding bolt. The outdoor play area provided to the right-hand side of the premises was enclosed by a high level metal boundary fence with gated access, both gates were secured with combination locks on the bolt mechanisms.</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 requirement is met.

A healthy eating policy is in place in the service. A three-week menu is displayed in the entrance hall. A cook will be employed to prepare food daily. Drinking water is available in each of the care rooms. A fridge is available in each care room for the storage of food and prepared infant formula milk.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 23 - Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

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*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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement is partially met.</p> <p>The entrance door to the premises controls entry to the service. It is electronically secured with a keypad access to prevent unauthorised entrance and children from exiting unsupervised. Parents will be asked to phone the care room on arrival and the staff will direct them to come directly to the care room using the keypad code that will be shared with parents / guardians only.</p> <p>A wooden boundary fence is located on the left-hand side and front of the premises. A secured metal boundary fence is located in the outdoor play area on the right hand side of the premises.</p> <p>The internal pre-school room doors are secured by thumb turn locks.</p> <p>Cleaning agents are safely stored out of the reach of preschool children. The low-level cupboards and fridges in each care room have child safe door locks fitted.</p> <p>There are resource cupboards for storage of equipment in the proposed care rooms.</p> <p>Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid hand soap, paper hand towels and air dryers are available for hygienic hand washing and drying, with foot pedal operated bins in the care rooms for hygienic and safe disposal of used paper towel and tissues and a separate foot pedal operated bin for the disposal of soiled nappies.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The doors on the eighteen sanitary areas are inadequate as they do not seal off the toilet cubicles from the care rooms to prevent foul air permeating into the care rooms which is an infection control risk.</li> </ol>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New full-length doors will be installed on the premises next Tuesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of April. Photographing evidence will be provided on completion.</li> </ol>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>The requirement for compliance is met. This was confirmed following onsite inspection on 5 April 2023.</p>

### Part VI - Safety

 <p>An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach Child and Family Agency</p>	<p>Child and Family Agency Act 2013</p> <p>Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016</p>	<p>Version 04 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYI-IR12.21 F06 FFP (New)</p>	<p>6 of 11</p>
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### 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 is met.

(1) Persons are trained in First Aid Response (FAR) for children and will be immediately available to the children attending the service.

(2)(a)(b) Two suitably equipped first aid boxes are available and accessible to children on ground floor and first floor. They were observed to be stored in a conspicuous position in these areas.

### 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 is met.

(1)

(a) Documentation was available for recording monthly fire drills.

(b) There was a record available of the number, type and maintenance of firefighting equipment and the smoke alarm which was 13 February 2023.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire was clearly displayed within the care room.

A fire assembly point had clear signage displayed in the outdoor area.

### Part VI - Safety

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Regulation 28 – Insurance	
<i>A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.</i>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement is met.</p> <p><b>The registered provider has submitted an insurance certificate to the Registration Office of cover for 80 children. The insurance cover is valid until 27 March 2024. This registration is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28 to ensure that the service is adequately insured and insurance is adjusted accordingly to cover the correct number of children attending at any one time.</b></p>

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements	
Regulation 29 – Premises	
<i>A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are—</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(a) of sound and stable structure,</i></li> <li><i>(b) safe and secure,</i></li> <li><i>(c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated,</i></li> <li><i>(d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and</i></li> <li><i>(e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement is met.</p> <p>(a) Visually, the proposed premises is a new building and in a state of good repair.</p> <p>(b) The proposed care rooms are secured from unauthorised entry by secured gates and main entrance to the premises is controlled by staff members. There is thumb turn locks on all internal doors.</p> <p>(c) There are openable windows in the eight proposed care rooms and cot room providing natural daylight and ventilation. Recessed lights with protective coverings are in the all-care rooms to provide additional artificial lighting.</p> <p>Blinds are available in the sleep room to dim the light levels.</p> <p>The care rooms and sanitary areas are heated by an air to water system throughout the service that is thermostatically controlled. Air conditioning units are present in each care room to either boost or reduce the environmental temperature if needed.</p>

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	<p>A mechanical ventilation system is present in each sanitary area to ensure that the air is circulated in these enclosed areas.</p> <p>(d) Daily cleaning schedules are in place for the care rooms and sanitary areas and the service.</p> <p>(e) There are eighteen sanitary areas in the service.</p> <p>Two toilets and two wash hand basins are provided for children’s use in the sanitary area located in each of the eight care rooms.</p> <p>A wall mounted pull down nappy changing unit is provided in the sanitary areas in the four care rooms and the cot room on the ground floor.</p> <p>Four wall mounted pull down nappy changing units are located in sanitary areas of four of the care rooms upstairs.</p> <p>An additional three toilets and three wash hand basin facilities are available for staff members in the service.</p>
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### Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 30 – Minimum Space Requirements	
	<p>(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.</p> <p>(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.</p>
Requirement met:	<p>The requirement is met.</p> <p>(1), (2)</p> <p>There is adequate space available to accommodate the proposed number of 122 pre-school children.</p> <p>1. <b><u>Baby room (3<sup>rd</sup> room LHS, ground floor)</u></b></p>

A total clear floor space of 26m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed care room for the maximum daily attendance of 7 pre-school children ranging in age from 0-1 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

2. **Wobbler room (1<sup>st</sup> room RHS, ground floor)**

A total clear floor space of 41m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed care room for the maximum daily attendance of 14 pre-school children ranging in age from 1-2 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

3. **Toddler 1 room (2<sup>nd</sup> room LHS, ground floor)**

A total clear floor space of 29m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed pre-school room for the maximum daily attendance of 12 pre-school children ranging in age from 2-3 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

4. **Toddler 2 room (1<sup>st</sup> room LHS, ground floor)**

A total clear floor space of 29m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed pre-school room for the maximum daily attendance of 12 pre-school children ranging in age from 2-3 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

5. **ECCE/ Afterschool room (2<sup>nd</sup> room RHS, first floor)**

A total clear floor space of 28m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed pre-school room for the maximum daily attendance of 15 pre-school children ranging in age from 2 years 8 months -6 years attending for the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme or 12 children ranging in age from 3-6 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

6. **Pre-school 1 room (1<sup>st</sup> room RHS, first floor)**

A total clear floor space of 44m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed pre-school room for the maximum daily attendance of 22 pre-school children ranging in age from 2 years 8 months -6 years attending for the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme or 19 children ranging in age from 3-6 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

7. **Pre-school 2 room (1<sup>st</sup> room LHS, first floor)**

A total clear floor space of 42m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed pre-school room for the maximum daily attendance of 22 pre-school children ranging in age from 2 years 8 months -6 years attending for the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme or 18 children ranging in age from 3-6 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

8. **ECCE/ Afterschool room (2<sup>nd</sup> room LHS, first floor)**

A total clear floor space of 44m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed pre-school room for the maximum daily attendance of 22 pre-school children ranging in age from 2 years 8 months -6 years attending for the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme or 19 children ranging in age from 3-6 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

9. **Cot room (2<sup>nd</sup> room RHS, ground floor)**

A total clear floor space of 32m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed sleep room.