

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2023KE003
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Cookies Early Learning Centre Ltd
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Unit 17, Ard Rath View, Crodaun, Celbridge, Co. Kildare, W23 H0KX
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<b>Email Address:</b>	inquiry.cookieselcardrath@gmail.com
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<b>Name of Proposed Registered Provider:</b>	Megan Cooke
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<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	✓	<b>Part-Time</b>	✓	<b>Drop-In</b>	
	<b>Sessional</b>	✓	<b>Childminding</b>		<b>Temporary</b>	

<b>Proposed service type:</b>	Full Day Care, Part-time, Sessional
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	56 children aged 1-6 years, amended to 2-6 years on inspection
<b>Outcome of the F06 Inspection</b>	The service proposes to open a full day care service; age profile 2-6 years; capacity 51 children Sessional, Max 47 full day; open for 51 weeks from 7:30am – 18:30 hours.
<b>Registered service:</b>	Registered Full Day Care / Part Time / Sessional Service for 51 Children (Max 47 Full Day Care)

<b>Date of Inspection: (Day 1)</b>	2	0	0	7	2	0	2	3
<b>(Day 2)</b>	2	5	0	7	2	0	2	3

<b>Inspection Undertaken by:</b>	T. Duignan
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector

<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	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**

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day Care / Part Time / Sessional Service for 51 Children (Max 47 Full Day Care)
<b>Date of Registration:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	The proposed private childcare facility, Cookies Early Learning Centre Ltd., aims to provide full day care, part-time and sessional care service for pre-school children aged 2 to 6 years of age. The proposed hours of operation are between 7:30am- 18:30 hours, Monday-Friday for 51 weeks of the year. The service proposes to accommodate a maximum number of 56 children when it is operating at full capacity.
<b>Premises</b>	The proposed premises are located in a purpose ground floor building within a housing development on the outskirts of Celbridge, Co. Kildare. The accommodation consists of four care rooms with adjoining sanitary facilities, sanitary facilities for adults, a kitchen, staff rest room and an office.  A secured play area is located to the side of the premises with direct access from three of the care rooms.
<b>Staffing</b>	It is proposed that eight 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 Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and the person in charge who were 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:**

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.*

**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.

**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—*

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*(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 four 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 slides seesaws, sand and water play, two outdoor easels and space to run freely.

(b) The rest areas in each pre-school room were cosy and comfortable. They consisted of comfortable floor mats; child sized comfortable soft sofas and soft furnishings 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.

There are 6 low level beds with appropriate bed linen available for children aged over 2 years requiring sleep during the day. It is proposed that children will sleep in a care room transitioned for sleep purposes.

(2)(a) The outdoor play area has a grassed surface and is available on the right-hand side of the premises. It is enclosed by a metal boundary fence with a gate secured with a bolt mechanism and lock. Three of the four pre-school rooms had direct access to the outdoor area.

### Part V – Care of Children in Pre-School Services

#### Regulation 22 – Food and Drink

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*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. The service will provide breakfast and the snacks. The main hot meals will be sourced from an external caterer and refrigerated prior to being reheated. A four-week menu is displayed. Drinking water is available in each of the care rooms. A fridge is available in each care room for the storage of food.

### 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 door to the premises controls entry to the service. It is electronically secured with finger print access for staff and parents. The electromagnetic lock prevents unauthorised entrance and children from exiting unsupervised. A wooden fence and gate are placed in front of the entrance door and provides additional security. A metal boundary fence secures the outdoor play area on the right-hand side of the premises.

The internal pre-school room doors and the doors to the outdoor play area are secured by thumb turn locks.

Cleaning agents are safely stored out of the reach of preschool children. The low-level cupboards in each care room have child safe door locks fitted.

There are resource cupboards for storage of equipment in the proposed care rooms. Additional storage is available in the hall and office.

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 separate foot pedal operated bins for the disposal of soiled nappies.

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 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) A suitably equipped first aid boxes are available and accessible to children in each care room and on the main corridor. 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 27 May 2023.

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

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

#### Requirement met:

The requirement is met.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection.

The registered provider had evidence of an insurance quotation for 56 children. The insurance cover was valid from 29 August 2023 until 27 March 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 is met.

(a) Visually, the proposed premises is a new building and in a state of good repair.

(b) The main entrance to the premises is controlled by staff members. There is thumb turn locks on all internal doors.

(c) There are openable windows in the four proposed care rooms providing natural daylight and ventilation. A combination of covered strip lights and recessed lights with protective coverings are in the all-care rooms and corridors to provide additional artificial lighting.

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The care rooms and sanitary areas are heated by an air to water system throughout the service that is thermostatically controlled. The air to water system can also reduce the environmental temperature if needed during hot weather.

A mechanical ventilation system is present in each sanitary area to ensure that the air is circulated in these enclosed areas.

(d) Daily cleaning schedules are in place for the care rooms and sanitary areas and the service.

(e) There are four sanitary areas in the service.

One toilet and one wash hand basin are provided for children's use in the sanitary area located in three of the care rooms and two toilets and two wash hand basins are available in one care room.

A wall mounted pull down nappy changing unit is provided in three of the sanitary areas in three care rooms.

Sanitary facilities are available for staff members in the service, and this included one toilet and one wash hand basin.

### 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 is met.

(1), (2)

There is adequate space available to accommodate up to 51 pre-school children on a sessional basis, or 47 on a Full Day/ Part Time basis.

**1. The Cherry Blossom room (1<sup>st</sup> room LHS)**

A total clear floor space of 15.8m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed care room for the maximum daily attendance of 7 pre-school children ranging in age from 2-3 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

**2. The Chestnut room (1<sup>st</sup> room RHS)**

A total clear floor space of 28m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed care room for the maximum daily attendance of 11 pre-school children ranging in age from 2-3 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

**3. The Willow room (2<sup>nd</sup> room RHS)**

A total clear floor space of 29.1m<sup>2</sup> is available in the proposed pre-school room for the maximum daily attendance of 11 pre-school children ranging in age from 2 years 8 months -6 years attending for the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme or 11 children ranging in age from 3-6 years on a full day care or part-time basis.

**4. The Oak room (5<sup>th</sup> room RHS)**

A total clear floor space of 55m<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.