

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2023KE006							
Name of Service:	Maap Childcare Ltd,. T/A Tots Crèche and Daycare Nursery Ltd,.							
Address of Service:	The Clover, Rathvoy Park, Naas Co. Kildare							
Email Address:	annette@tots.ie							
Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Annette Akerlind, Audrey Murray							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	√	Part-Time		Drop-In			
	Sessional		Childminding		Temporary			
Proposed service type:	Full Day Care							
Proposed Number of Children:	60							
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	56 children, aged 2 - 6 years of age, can be accommodated at any one time on a sessional basis and 43 children aged 2-6 years on a full day care basis following measurement of the service on inspection.							
Registered service:	Registered Full Day / Part Time/ Sessional Service for 56 children (Max 43 Full Day Care)							
Date of Inspection:	2	1	0	8	2	0	2	3
Inspection Undertaken by:	F.Maher							
Title:	Early years Inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate Suite 7, Vista Primary Care Centre Child and Family Agency Ballymore Eustace Road Naas Co. Kildare, W91X38W							

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Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day / Part Time/ Sessional Service for 56 children (Max 43 Full Day Care)
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	Maap childcare Ltd. T/A Tots Crèche Daycare and Nursery is a private service proposing to operate a full day care service, catering for 60 children aged 2 - 6 years old. It proposes to open Monday to Friday from 07.00am-18.30pm for 51 weeks of the year. Part-time and sessional care and education will also be offered. The registered providers also operate a further five services located in Newbridge, Sallins and Prosperous Co. Kildare.
Premises	The service proposes to operate from a purpose built premises located on the ground floor of a two story building in a private residential housing estate in Naas, Co. Kildare. The service has a dedicated entrance and does not communicate directly with the two apartments on the first floor. Three pre-school rooms, sanitary facilities, including nappy change facilities, a kitchen, office and an outdoor play area are provided.
Staffing	The proposed registered providers have appointed a designated person in charge. It is proposed that seven childcare staff, and one chef will be working in the service. All proposed childcare staff working directly with the pre-school children will hold qualifications in Early Childhood Care and Education as recognised on the National Framework of Qualifications.
Methodology	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

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	<p>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 providers and operations manager 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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) (a)</p> <p>There is a designated person in charge and a named person will be available to deputise as required.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>The proposed registered providers have stated that there will be an adequate number of adults working with the children attending the service. Five adults are proposed to work directly with the children attending the service to ensure the required adult to child ratio</p>
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is maintained. The person in charge will be supernumerary and available to assist and provide relief cover as necessary.

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 service comprises of three pre-school rooms. The rooms are bright and spacious and have a variety of age-appropriate toys and learning equipment available at an accessible height to facilitate a child-led learning environment. The rooms are thoughtfully planned with clearly defined areas of interest including home corners, construction areas, mark making, small world and comfortable rest areas. A variety of play and learning materials include puzzles, jigsaws, interconnecting manipulative equipment, natural and wooden toys and equipment, paint, paper, art and craft materials, sensory equipment, animals, blocks, cars, dolls, and an assortment of props and open ended equipment for the interest areas.

The outdoor play area has an artificial grass covering and equipment included play houses, sand/water trays, child sized tables and chairs, two large hexagonal shapes that can be rolled and a variety of ride on equipment.

(b)

Comfortable rest areas with soft furnishings are available in each pre-school room. Low level beds with appropriate bed linen are available should any child require a period of sleep when attending on a full or part time basis.

	<p>2(a)</p> <p>The proposed service has access to a secure enclosed outdoor area with direct access from each of the three pre-school rooms. The outdoor play area is enclosed with a high-level metal fence and high level metal gates are located at each side entrance. Combination locks are in place on both gates.</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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>The registered providers have employed a chef and there are separate kitchen facilities available for the provision of adequate food and drink for children. A four week menu plan is available to demonstrate that varied nutritious food will be provided.</p> <p>The Operations manager of the service advised that the relevant health authority has been notified regarding the preparation of food on the premises.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>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 and an intercom system is also in operation. The outdoor area is suitably secured. All windows have been fitted with fire-safe restrictors. 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.</p> <p>Visibility stickers are in place on the windows and glass doors in each care room.</p> <p>Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap and paper hand towel, hygienically dispensed from wall mounted dispensers, are available in the sanitary accommodation for hygienic hand washing and drying. Foot pedal operated bins are</p>
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	<p>located in the sanitary areas and pre-school rooms for the hygienic and safe disposal of used paper hand towel, waste items and tissues.</p> <p>The premises is maintained in a clean and hygienic condition and detailed cleaning schedules are in place for all room environments.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>Current certification in relation to First Aid Response (FAR) training, is available for the Operations manager who will be working in the service and expires 26 July 2025.</p> <p>The service plans to open 4 September 2023 and the proposed person in charge and staff in the service are booked to complete First Aid Responder (FAR) training 30/31 August 2023, this was evidenced by the email confirmation provided to the inspector by the Operations manager.</p> <p>(2)(a)(b)</p> <p>Suitably equipped first aid boxes are available in the service. They are clearly identifiable and readily accessible and will be available to children at all times when attending the service</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a)</p> <p>Documentation is available to record monthly fire drills.</p> <p>(1)(b)</p>
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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 dated August 2023 and 3 August 2023 respectively.

(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.

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 registered provider has evidence of insurance cover for 60 children. The insurance cover is valid to 27/03/2024.

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 proposed service is a recently built two story premises and the ground floor has been fully adapted for the purpose of providing a full day care service and decorated accordingly. Visually, the premises appears to be of sound and stable structure.

(b)

The front door to the service is secured with keypad access for authorised adults and an intercom system is in operation at this point also. The outdoor area is secured with a high level metal perimeter fence and two high level metal gates at each side, both fitted with combination locks, to prevent a child leaving the area unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.

(c)

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The premises benefits from natural light via windows in all pre-school rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from recessed LED ceiling lights in the rooms and sanitary areas.

The service is heated and cooled with a central air-conditioning system. Windows in each room can be opened and mechanical ventilation is provided in the sanitary areas. The ambient room temperatures were measured and recorded between 19.5-21.8°Celsius.

(d)

The premises and its environs are clean and well maintained.

(e)

Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities have been provided. There are five toilets and five wash hand basins designated for children's use. There is one nappy changing unit with a wash hand basin also available. One disabled access toilet and wash hand basin has been provided for adults.

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), (2)

Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement for 56 pre-school children proposed to attend the service on a sessional basis and 43 children aged 2-6 years proposed to attend on a full day care basis as demonstrated below,

Room	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3
Clear Floor Space	40m ²	42.6m ²	20.28m ²

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