

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2023KY002
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Name of Service:	Curious Minds Lyreacrompane
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Address of Service:	Glanshanacree, Lyreacrompane National School, Lyreacrompane, Listowel, Co. Kerry. V31 P996.
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Email Address:	omahony.marie@yahoo.ie
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Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Marie Sheehy
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed service type:	Full Day Care
Proposed Number of Children:	11
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	The care room measured 18.1 m ² allowing for 7 full day care children, aged between 2 years and 6 years of age, rising to 10 children during sessional times.
Registered service:	Registered Full Day Care / Sessional Service for 10 children (Max 7 Full Day Care)

Date of Inspection:	1	0	0	7	2	0	2	3
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Inspection Undertaken by:	E. Friel
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	134 Bank Place, Mallow, Cork. P51 EC59.
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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 Care / Sessional Service for 10 children (Max 7 Full Day Care)
Date of Registration:	14 th July 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	Curious Minds Lyreacrompane proposes to provide a full day care service including part-time and sessional services for children aged from two years to six years of age. This includes children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme, 38 weeks of the year, term time only. The proposed opening hours of the service are from 7.00 am until 6.00 pm, Monday to Friday, 50 weeks of the year.
Premises	The proposed childcare facility is located in the rural area of Lyreacrompane in County Kerry. The newly built childcare facility is situated on the grounds of Lyreacrompane National School and comprises one care room and a sanitary area with two separate toilet cubicles. A fully enclosed outdoor play area is available, and it is proposed that the service has use of an additional secure outdoor play area adjoining the school.
Staffing	It is proposed that there will be three staff members. The registered provider will not be working in the service.
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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

(a) The proposed registered provider has ensured that there will be a designated person in charge and a named person available to deputise.

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 has been met.

(1) The proposed registered provider will ensure that there will be, at all times, an adequate number of adults on the premises who will be working directly with the children. It is proposed that there will be two staff members working with the pre-school children and a third staff member providing break cover.

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 newly built service is clean, bright and well maintained. There are

adequate facilities, resources, toys and equipment suited to the age and stage of development for the proposed group of children, providing playful opportunities to enhance learning across all developmental areas. The resources of toys and play equipment are arranged on low-level shelving providing ease of access and choice for each child.

The outdoor play area surrounds the service. The surface area at the back consists of rubber tiling and there is access to a number of resources which provide opportunities for sensory experiences and gross and fine motor skills.

(b) A suitable and inviting rest area is available in the care room with cushions and soft seating. The registered provider is awaiting a sofa for this area. Stackable beds, individual bed linen and fleece blankets are available for those who wish to rest or sleep.

(2)

(a) The proposed registered service provider submitted this application after 30 June 2016 to be sanctioned to operate as a full day care service and has a secure outdoor play area surrounding the service.

(3)

(a) There is a designated secure outdoor play area available for the children with a ramp and steps providing access for all children to the service.

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 was met.

- The healthy eating policy was reviewed and was found to contain all of the core requirements to meet the needs for each child which were healthy, adequate and nutritious.
- The service proposes to provide cereals including rice crispies and cornflakes for breakfast between the hours of 7.00 am and 9.20 am. It is proposed that the rest of the food and snacks will be provided by the parents/guardians. The proposed registered provider is aware that children attending a service for over five hours require two meals, one of which should be hot, along with two snacks. The proposed parents/guardians will be providing the hot meal and the service proposes to re-heat the food in the available microwave, checking the core temperature (70°C) with a food probe. Parents/guardians will provide a list of ingredients and the food will be stored in the available fridge.
- The service will supply water and milk. Cutlery and crockery, suitable for the age and stage of development of the proposed children, are available in the service.
- The registered provider has a supply of alternative food available, if required.
- A fridge/freezer is available for storing perishable 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:

This requirement has been met.

General Safety:

- The main fire exit door was fitted with a thumb twist cylinder and was unobstructed.
- Once locked, from the inside, the main door could not be opened from the outside, preventing unauthorised adults accessing the service.
- The low-level glass pane was fitted with a visibility strip to prevent children banging into it.
- All windows were fitted with window restrictors preventing the proposed children from exiting or falling from them.
- The toys and equipment were new and in good condition.
- All flexes and cables were inaccessible and placed out of reach of the proposed children.
- All storage facilities were fitted with safety catches.
- The medication was stored in a high cupboard above the adult sink area.
- Cleaning equipment was stored in a cupboard with a safety device, located in the adult toilet.
- The outdoor play area was secured by a concrete wall, metal fencing and two bolted gates.
- The kettle and microwave are secured out of reach of the children.
- Thermostatically controlled hot water, ranging between 27°C and 41°C, was available for all wash hand basins in use by the proposed adults and children.

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Infection Control:

- All wash handbasins were supplied with dispensing soap, paper towels for hand drying and pedal operated bins for the disposal of waste.
- The nappy changing area had a supply of disposable gloves and aprons and a sealed, lidded and lined nappy bin was available.
- Hooks were available for storing children’s belongings off the floor area.
- A linen basket was available for the storage of used linen.
- Care room cleaning schedule templates were available detailing the areas requiring cleaning on a daily basis.
- Pedal operated bins are available throughout the service.
- A secure storage cupboard was available for the storage of cleaning equipment including brushes and mops.

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) Certificates on file demonstrated that the proposed designated person in charge and the registered provider have First Aid Responder (FAR) training completed.
- (2)
- (a) (b) There were two well stocked first aid kits stored above the adult sink, these were available at all times.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

(a) Templates were available for the recording of monthly fire drills in the service.

(b) Written records were available of the number, type and maintenance records of the new firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms. These certificates were dated 10 October 2022 and 24 March 2023 respectively.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were located on the wall at the main exit door.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

Full insurance was provided to the Registration Office valid from 31/07/2023 to 27/03/2024 covering up to 11 children.

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 registered provider stated that the newly built service is of sound and stable structure and in a good state of repair.
- (b) The main exit door is only openable from indoors and accessible by key outdoors. The outdoor perimeter of the play area is secured with a concrete wall, metal fencing, and two bolted gates. The main school entrance is secured with two bolted gates.
- (c) Both natural light from the two sky lights and the glass door, and artificial light from the two ceiling lights, were available in the care room. Each of the toilet cubicles were fitted with a covered safety light.

 The care room and sanitary area were heated by way of electricity in the form of two storage heaters, one located in the care room and one in the sanitary area. The care room temperature was recorded at 22°C and the storage heater was recorded as 36.9°C. Written records indicated that the heating had been serviced on 27 January 2023.

 Adequate ventilation was provided from the openable windows and skylights in the care room and sanitary area.
- (d) The service is newly built, it appeared clean, in good condition and well maintained. A classroom cleaning room schedule was available on an electronic application where the proposed staff will record the cleaning on a daily basis.
- (e) There are two individual toilet cubicles each with a wash hand basin. The one proposed for use by the children also has a changing table and a lidded, lined

and sealed nappy bin. Disposable aprons and gloves were available for nappy changes. Each child had an individual basket for personal belongings. There is a second toilet proposed for use by the adults which has a separate secure storage cupboard. Both cubicles have dispensing soap, thermostatically controlled hot water for hygienic hand washing, and pedal operated bins for the disposal of waste.

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.*
- (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).*

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

- (1) Adequate floor space of 18.1 m² is provided in the care room allowing for the play and free movement of 7 full day care children within the service.
- (2) There is a sufficient amount of floor space for 7 full day care children, aged between 2 years and 6 years of age, rising to 10 during the sessional times.
- (4) The minimum clear floor space available for the sessional service is 18.1 m².