

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2023KY003

Name of Service: Scoil na nÓg Montessori

Address of Service: Glens South, Dingle, Co. Kerry

Email Address: scoilnanogmontessori@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Georgina Diver

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change: Increase in the number of children catered for from 18 to 19.

Proposed Number of Children: 19

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Increase in the number of children catered for to 19

Registered change: Change in Number of Children from 18 to 19 children

Date of Inspection:	1	1	1	1	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by: N. Reidy

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Áras an Phobail, Deans Lane, Tralee, Co. Kerry

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day & Sessional Service for 19 children
Date of Registration	20 th November 2024

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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	Scoil na nÓg is a private early years service that is registered to provide full day and sessional care for children aged between the age of 2 years and 6 years. Currently the service provide care for children aged between 2 years 10 months and 5 years. The service is registered as operating between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:30pm Monday to Friday inclusive. The Early Years Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme operates from 09:00 am to 12 mid-day.
Premises	The service operates from a single playroom in the national school building with designated outdoor areas available and accessible each day to the children attending
Staffing	There are 3 adults employed in the service, of whom 1 is the registered provider.
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 the following 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 registering the change in circumstance. 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>
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children 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 has been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider is the designated person in charge and there is a named person who is able to deputize as required.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider who facilitated the inspection confirmed that 3 adults are employed to work in the service each day. On the day of the inspection there were 16 children aged between 2 years 10 months and 4 years, 5 children attending on a sessional basis and 11 children attending on a full day care basis with 3 adults caring for them.

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—*
- (b) *of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises 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.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, shall ensure that—*
- (a) *a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises or*
 - (b) *where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service*
- (4) *Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.*
- (5) *Where pre-school children attending a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre have access to an outdoor space other than such a space specified in paragraph 4, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

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	<p>(1)(a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was low shelving units provided in the playroom that are easily accessible to the children. • A range of play equipment and materials were provided in the room to support various forms of play, for example sensory, language/literacy, fine motor, gross motor and creative. • Some of the units had the toys stored within pull out drawers and more units had the toys stored directly within the shelving with additional play items stored in the floor. • The registered provider demonstrated the re-constructed shelving that will replace the current fixed shelving unit located at the bottom of the playroom. The said shelving will enable the children to independently access additional play materials from the shelving with the additional floor space beneath it. The registered provider informed the inspector the proposed shelving works will be completed within the next 2 weeks. <p>(b) There is a soft matting area placed on the carpeted flooring in a designated area of the room with cushions to enable children to rest and relax as they wish to during the session. In addition, the inspector observed the foldable matting, sheets and blankets stored on site for children to use for sleep and rest.</p> <p>(3) For outdoor play the children have access to 2 designated fully enclosed areas accessible directly from the playroom via the fire exit door. These areas are proposed to be used at alternate times to the children registered early years service.</p> <p>(4) + (5) Not applicable as the children have access to an on-site outdoor play area.</p>
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Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

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 parents of the children attending provide all food served to the children attending.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a kitchenette located in the entrance area consisting of a sink with warm and cold water, cupboards, a microwave and a fridge to store the children individually labelled perishable food items. • Potable drinking water is available at the kitchenette sink. The children's individual drink's bottles were stored on a low level trolley in the playroom. • The registered provider will supply dried food and frozen food items should the children attending require it in addition to or as an alternative to the food supplied by the parents.
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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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entrance door to the building was secured. • A secure child safety gate was in place between the playroom and the kitchenette area. • All toys and play equipment in the proposed playroom appeared to be safe and in good condition. • The fire doors were unobstructed. • The cleaning equipment and materials were stored out of the reach of the children. • The first aid box was stored on a high-level hook in the playroom out of children's reach. • The cleaning template schedules were available for inspection and demonstrated the service has daily specific cleaning duties. • A designated secured wall mounted medicine cabinet was located in the playroom. • The medicines observed were clearly labelled and within their original containers.
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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) Evidence that 3 staff members working with the children had completed First Aid Responder (FAR) training and the certifications were in date.
- (2)(a) There was a suitably equipped first aid box provided; it was stored on a high-level hook in the playroom out of the reach of the children.
- (b) The suitably equipped first aid box was available in the service

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) Records were on file to demonstrate that monthly fire drills were conducted, the last fire drill took place on 4/11/'24.
 - (b) A record of the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the wired smoke alarm was available on file. It was recorded that firefighting equipment was last serviced on the 28.05.'24 and the smoke alarms system was last serviced on the 26.06.'24.
- (4) The service has a designated identifiable assembly point in the event of a fire. A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the service.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>The insurance cert was displayed on the notice board in the entrance hall/kitchenette area.</p> <p>The information provided on the insurance certificate included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the contact details for the insurance provider • the name and address of the service insured. • the category of insurance cover for the service, that is full day care and sessional. • the number of children covered by the insurance was for 20 children. <p>The expiry date of the current insurance cover was 27/03/'25.</p>
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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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(a) From a visual inspection the building appears to be of sound and stable structure.</p> <p>(b) The premise was safe and secure on the day of the inspection.</p> <p>(c)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural lighting was provided via 3 high level openable windows in the pre-school room supplemented with 2 artificial enclosed light fittings. • Natural lighting was provided by means of a window in each of the bathrooms and in the lobby of the sanitary accommodation supplemented with artificial enclosed light fittings in each of these areas. • The temperature of the playroom was recorded at 18.5 degrees Celsius, and the temperature of the sanitary accommodation was recorded at 18.2 degrees Celsius.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The means of heating both bathrooms and the lobby area are by means of a wall mounted electric heater located in the lobby. • There are thermostatically controlled wall mounted radiators in the playroom and entrance area. • The playroom and sanitary was ventilated by means of natural ventilation from the open-able windows. <p>(d) The premise, play equipment, materials and furniture appeared to be clean and in a good condition.</p> <p>(e)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 2 toilets, and 2 wash hand basins allocated for children’s use, 1 of whom is located in the allocated disabled bathroom. • There is an electric height adjustable nappy changing wall mounted unit in place in the disabled bathroom. There is 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin available for the adult’s use, located in the national school.
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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.

(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.

(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:

The requirement has been met.

(1) Adequate clear floor space was provided in the proposed care room for the children to work, play and move.

(3) The available floor space meets the minimum floor space requirement for the proposed 19 children who will be attend the playroom on a sessional basis.

(4) It is proposed by the registered provider that the service will contemporaneously

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	provide both a sessional and full day care service. Adequate floor space is available for the proposed children to attend on a sessional basis and on a full day care basis.
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