

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2023KY004
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Name of Service:	Tigh Na Leanai
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Address of Service:	Ballytrasna, Ventry, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92 EO34
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Email Address:	Tighnaleanai2023@gmail.com
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Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Vanessa Duffy
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sessional	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed service type:	A childminding service
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Proposed Number of Children:	5
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Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	A proposed childminding service to cater for 5 children aged from under 1 year to 6. The service will operate on a part time and full day care basis from 08:00am to 18:00pm.
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Registered service:	Registered Childminding Service for 5 children.
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Date of Inspection:	1	6	0	8	2	0	2	3
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Inspection Undertaken by:	M Carney
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Title:	Early Years Inspector
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Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Child & Family Agency, SW Dept. Hospital Grounds, Coolnagarrane, Skibbereen, West Cork P81 PD78
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Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Registered Childminding Service for 5 children.
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Date of Registration:	29 th 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).

Description of Service	Tigh Na Leanaí is proposing to provide a home-based childminding service for up to 5 children at any one time, from less than 1 year to 6 years of age. Proposed daily opening hours of operation are from 08:00am to 18:00pm throughout the year.
Premises	The childminding service is proposing to operate from the registered providers home in a rural, elevated position overlooking Dingle Bay a few minutes from Ventry village in west Kerry. The children will have access to the ground floor of a spacious, detached, modern build which offers a playroom, sleep room, kitchen/dining room and toilet and nappy changing facilities. The children will have their own secluded garden accessed via the utility room. There is ample parking space on the driveway for the safe arrival and departure of the children with their families.
Staffing	The service will be staffed by 1 adult who has attained Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) in June 2022 in childcare training at Level 8.
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 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.
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and/or 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 has been met.

(1)(a)

The proposed registered provider will be working directly with the children and overseeing service operation. On file the relevant vetting documentation was in place which included an up-to-date Garda vetting disclosure dated May 2023, Police vetting dated August 2018, 2 written references, personal identification, and certification of childcare qualifications.

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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been partially met.

(1)

The proposed registered provider will be the adult working directly with a maximum of 5 children for the duration of service operation.

Requirement not met:

(8)(b)

The proposed registered provider had not designated an emergency adult within close distance to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency.

Response from Provider:

(8)(b)

The registered provider stated that the local County Childcare Committee had been contacted; the requirements for appointing an emergency person was explained. Consequently, the registered provider has appointed a suitable person in the event of requiring assistance in the event of an emergency.

Summary Comment:	Documentation to evidence that an emergency person has been appointed was submitted to the early years office. It was reviewed and found to meet the non-compliant aspects of Regulation 11 – Staffing Levels.
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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:	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) The registered providers dining/kitchen room was set up to accommodate the children with a selection of floor play mats; there was a child sized upcycled table, 2 chairs and low bench for the children to sit and eat their meals and participate in tabletop play. The kitchen area provided ample space for small ride on toys to be enjoyed. An interlinked room was designated for the children to play; it was laid out with a diverse range of age-appropriate play materials and resources which were clean and in a good state of repair. The children had easy access to tabletop activities such as finger puppets, jigsaws, puzzles, matching games and small construction. There as an activity table, musical instruments and a low rocking horse. Dress up items were clean and in a good state of repair. There was a well-defined home corner furnished with dolls, dolly bath, miniature ironing board and a brightly painted red play kitchen with associated utensils pleasingly stored to entice sociable play, prompt exploration and imagination.</p> <p>(b) A cordoned corner of the playroom was devoted to rest and furnished with a low cushioned chair, cushions and soft matting. A selection of well-maintained books was readily available for the children to select whilst resting. The registered provider had created a suitable and safe space within the adjoining sitting room to accommodate a sleep facility. There was 1 newly purchased white</p>
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	<p>standard cot furnished with a well fitted, wipeable mattress. It was situated away from any climbing hazards. The cot had been set up for sleep with clean fitted linen and an age-appropriate grow bag. It was evidenced that cellular blankets had been ordered so that each child attending the service had their own blanket. For children attending the service over that age of 2 years that required a sleep newly purchased stackable beds were available with bespoke linen.</p> <p>(2)(a) The children had access to their own designated garden situated to the rear of the property. It was securely fenced. It was laid to lawn and equipped with a wide range of play materials such as the mud kitchen and wheelbarrows.</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 provider made available a healthy eating policy which on inspection was found to be suitable for a childminding service. It was reported that the parents and guardians would be requested to provide their children with all lunch and snack items. The service was proposing to offer a cooked hot meal on a daily basis, a planned menu was reviewed and it was observed that the meals were found to be healthy nutritious, varied and suitable. For example, chicken fajitas, peppers, corn and cheese wrap. The registered provider advised that the children would have access to their reusable water bottles throughout the day. Meals were to be eaten at the child sized table, 2 chairs and bench. The table was set with a colourful tablecloth and vase of flowers. Child sized utensils were stocked in readiness for the children’s use. A newly purchased white highchair was situated in the kitchen for the younger children to eat meals and enjoy snacks.</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:

The requirement has been partially met.

General Safety:

- The registered provider stated that the children and parents had access to the service from their own patio entrance to the side of the premises. It was suitably secured ensuring that unauthorised access was restricted, and the children would not be able to leave the building unsupervised.
- A cordoned entrance within the kitchen allowed for the safe supervised arrival and departure of the children.
- The patio doors had visibility strips applied.
- The children did not have access to the staircase.
- There were no blinds available to the children.
- There were no flexes available to the children.
- The kitchen was clean and uncluttered with no trip hazards.
- Most of the cupboards and drawers had child safety latches applied.
- There were no visible flexes or electric cabling observed.
- The toys, equipment and play materials were both clean and well maintained with sharp edges or choking hazards.
- Cleaning materials were safely stored out of the reach of the children.

Infection control:

- The premises was clean and well maintained.
- The children had access to a designated toilet and nappy changing room which was clean and well maintained. It was furnished with 1 toilet with associated seat and step-up. There was 1 wash hand basin encased in a vanity unit with mixer taps.
- Thermostatically controlled hot water which registered at 40.1 degrees Celsius was available in conjunction with liquid soap and paper towels for handwashing purposes.
- A modern and upcycled nappy changing unit was available. It had a clean and wipeable changing mat.
- Storage space for the children’s individual toiletries was available.
- A non-contact nappy bin was situated by the nappy changing unit.
- Protective gloves were available for adult use.
- A fridge was situated in the kitchen for the storage of the children’s perishable food items.
- The registered provider made available templates to document cleaning schedules.

<p>Requirement not met:</p>	<p>General Safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Some of the kitchen cabinet drawers did not have safety latches applied and posed a risk of the children gaining access to plastic bags or sharp utensils. 2. Three internal doors were not suitably secured. They were situated in the main playroom and led to 2 adult bedrooms and a storage cupboard. This posed a potential risk of children accessing these areas unsupervised. 3. The low open display unit in the playroom was not suitably anchored and posed a risk of falling on a child.
<p>Response from Provider:</p>	<p>General Safety:</p> <p>The registered provider stated that -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The kitchen cabinet drawers have been suitably secured. A photograph of the secured drawers was submitted. 2. The three internal doors have been secured. A photograph of the secured drawers was submitted. 3. The open display unit in the playroom has been suitably anchored. A Photograph of the anchored unit was submitted.
<p>Summary Comment:</p>	<p>Documentation to evidence that the breaches had been suitably addressed were reviewed and found to be satisfactory. The Requirements have been met.</p>

Part VI - Safety

<p>Regulation 25 – First Aid</p>	
<p>(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.</p> <p>(2) A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children —</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (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 	
<p>Requirement met:</p>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The registered provider had completed a first aid responder (FAR) training course. Certification indicated that the expiry date was February 2024.</p> <p>(2)(a) & (b) A first aid box was situated in the utility room, out of reach of the children but easily accessible to adults. On inspection it was found to be adequately stocked. Medications were not stored in the first aid box.</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 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 has been met.

(1)(a) & (b)

The registered provider had a designated fire wall in the utility room which displayed fire drill templates to be used in readiness for monthly fire drills.

In addition, there was a record of the number and type of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms situated on the premises.

Records informed that the last service of firefighting equipment had taken place in May 2023

(4)

A fire evacuation plan was displayed on the fire wall.

In addition, the registered provider described a fire bag which stored Hi Viz jackets, children’s registration details and a flashlight for use in the event of an evacuation due to fire.

The assembly point was clearly identified.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

Full insurance received for Childminder for ‘6 with no more than 5 Pre-School Children’. Valid from 11.07.23 to 10.07.24.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

(a)

The proposed service was located in a modern, detached domestic dwelling that was found to be visually of sound and stable structure. The interior floors and ceilings of were in a good state of repair and decoration. Windows were water and weather proved and openable above child height.

(b)

The premises was found to be secured.

(c)

The service had a combination of recessed spotlights and light fixtures which were found to provide adequate light and to be in good working condition.

Openable windows allowed for natural light and ventilation.

Lighting in the sitting room/sleep room was dimmable.

The service provided oil central heating. The ambient room temperatures of the playroom registered at 20 degrees Celsius. The sleep room had a wall mounted thermometer to ensure that adults could visually check the room temperatures. It was stated that sleep room temperatures would be maintained between 16 – 20 degrees Celsius.

(d)

The floor covering, painted walls and ceilings were clean and well maintained on the day of inspection. There was no evidence of mould.

(e)

The toilet and sanitary accommodation were suitable, clean and well maintained. Facilities were adequate and sufficient for the number of children proposing to attend.

There was a toilet designated of adult use during the hours of operation.

The service was connected to a public water supply. Waste was removed to a septic tank.

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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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

Adequate clear floor space was available to ensure that the children could move freely, engage in activities, enjoy free play and socialise, participate in scheduled activities in a safe and supervised manner.