

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2023LK001
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Name of Service:	Joani's Preschool
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Address of Service:	Gibbonstown, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick V35PA09
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Email Address:	Jhargrow21@gmail.com
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Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Joani Hargrow
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed service type:	Sessional Service
Proposed Number of Children:	11
Outcome of the F06 Inspection	Sessional Service for 11 preschool children aged 2 – 6years
Registered service:	Registered Sessional Service for 11 Children

Date of Inspection:	2	6	0	7	2	0	2	3
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Inspection Undertaken by:	M Riordan
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Tusla, Early Years Inspectorate, Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick
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Rationale for Inspection
Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Registered Sessional Service for 11 Children
Date of Registration:	1 st 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	Joani's Preschool service is a proposed new sessional service planning to open in September 2023. It is located in a rural setting in Co. Limerick. The service proposes to cater for a maximum of 11 preschool children aged 2.8 years to 6 years, Monday to Friday.
Premises	The proposed service will operate from a purposely designed, stand-alone premises located at the rear of the registered provider's home. The children will have access to their own pre-school room, a large indoor play area, designated sanitary facilities and an enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the premises.
Staffing	The registered provider will be the owner/manager of the service. Relief staff will be available if required. A second person will be available close to the service if needed in an emergency. All adults who will have access to the children will have the appropriate vetting procedures carried out.
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 two 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 and her partner 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:

(1)(a) The registered provider will be the manager and the person in charge of running the service. A panel of relief staff will also be available if needed.

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

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Requirement met:

(1) It is proposed that the registered provider will be available on site each day with 11 pre-school children from September 2023.

8(c) A second person who is familiar with the service and the children will at all times be within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist in the event of an emergency.

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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:

(1) (a) This requirement has been met. The children will have access to 2 rooms indoors at the facility, a well-resourced pre-school room and a second larger room for active play opportunities. The pre-school rooms are bright and clean and lit by natural lighting, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. The rooms are equipped with lots of furniture, toys and equipment suitable to the ages and stages of development of the children who are proposed to be accommodated in the service. The 2nd indoor play area has lots of space for more active games, for using ride on toys and has lots of open room for children to improve and master their gross motor skills. The registered provider proposes to further develop and expand on the children's indoor environment based on the emerging interests and developmental needs of the children.

(b) This requirement has been met. A designated rest area with suitable soft matting and soft cushions has been created in the playroom for the children to rest and relax as required. A rest area has also been built into the space under the stairs.

(2)(a) An outdoor space is available to the rear of the premises, and it is a safe, secure and suitable space for the children's outdoor play. Children will have access to a large grassy area with lots of age-appropriate play equipment in the space. The area is well secured to prevent children getting unsupervised exit from the play area. The children will have access to this outdoor space each day.

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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:

Children will bring their own snacks which will be stored in a fridge. A healthy eating policy will be in place and only healthy snacks will be encouraged. Potable water will be accessible to the children at all times.

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 met:

General safety: There were no hazards or sources of danger observed during the inspection. Entrances and exits appeared safe and secure and these areas will be locked while children are present.

There is a fridge available for the safe storage of snacks.

Infection Control: Cleaning programmes and schedules will be in place. Adequate hand washing facilities, paper towel dispensers and thermostatically controlled hot water to a maximum of 43 degrees Celsius are available to support effective hand washing.

Administration of Medication: There is a policy on the safe administration of medications to children attending the service.

Fire Safety: The designated emergency exit door was clear and unobstructed. All fire fighting equipment was serviced and wall mounted in the front hall of the premises.

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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times

Requirement met:

(1) The requirement has been met. The registered provider has completed a First Aid Responder training and the certificate is in date up to 2024.

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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:

- (1)(a) The requirement has been met. Provision to record monthly fire drills was available.
- (b) The requirement has been met. A record of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms were documented. The firefighting equipment was serviced in March 2023.
- (4) The requirement has been met. A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency was displayed in the service.

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 insurance documentation demonstrated that adequate cover will be provided for the proposed sessional service from 28/08/23 to 27/03/23 for a maximum of 11 children on a sessional basis.

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 building appears to be of sound and stable structure. It appears throughout to be clean and well maintained.
- (b) An appropriate security system is in place to protect the premises from any unauthorised entry, and unsupervised exit of children from the service. Safe storage is provided for the children’s belongings. Storage for cleaning materials and equipment is provided in a designated safe area. There is provision for the safe storage of medications in the service which is well out of reach of the children.
- (c) The playroom is well lit by natural light through openable windows on the external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting where needed. The premises are heated by

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infra-red electric heaters located on the ceiling. Heating from these is thermostatically controlled.

(d) Cleaning policy and schedules will be available for the service in line with the National Guidelines for the Management of Infectious Diseases for Childcare settings.

(e) There are 2 individual toilet cubicles with 2 wash hand basins available in the main bathroom area for the children and staff. Each wash hand basin is equipped with cold and hot water. The hot water will be controlled at the recommended temperature of not more than 43 degrees Celsius. A supply of paper towel and soap dispenser are wall mounted to facilitate effective hand washing.

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.

Requirement met:

(1) The requirement has been met. More than adequate floor space is provided in the preschool room to accommodate the free movement of the proposed number of children to work and play.

(3) The service will ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.