

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

**Tusla I.D:** TU2023TY007

**Name of Service:** Ready Steady Go Childcare

**Address of Service:** Killea National School, Killea, Templemore, Co. Tipperary

**Email Address:** killea@readysteadygo.ie

**Name of Proposed Registered Provider:** Lorraine Keeshan

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

**Proposed service type:** Full Day Care

**Proposed Number of Children:** 14 revised to 11 during inspection in line with insurance

**Outcome of the F06 Inspection:** Full day care service for 11 children aged 2 – 6 years. Monday – Friday, 8am – 6pm for 52 weeks of the year

**Registered service:** Registered Full Day Care Service for 11 Children

**Date of Inspection:** 1 9 1 0 2 0 2 3

**Inspection Undertaken by:** L McGeeney

**Title:** Early Years Inspector

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Civic Offices, Limerick Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

### Rationale for Inspection

#### Proposed New Service

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

**Registration Status:** Registered Full Day Care Service for 11 Children

**Date of Registration:** 3<sup>rd</sup> January 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	This proposed full day care service will provide care and education to children aged between 2 and 6 years old, Monday to Friday, 8am – 6pm for 52 weeks of the year. This will be a sister service to Ready Steady Go Childcare in Corville, Roscrea.
<b>Premises</b>	The service will be operated from a room in a primary school outside the rural village of Killea in north Tipperary. The children will have access to their room with adjacent sanitary accommodation area as well as resources in the school such as the sensory room and outdoor play areas. The school kitchen will also be available for accessing drinking water.
<b>Staffing</b>	The registered provider and the service manager will work in the service on a daily basis. Both staff hold recognised qualifications in early childhood care and education.
<b>Methodology</b>	<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>
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and manager 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) It is proposed that the service manager will be the designated person in charge and the proposed registered provider will deputise in her absence.

### 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)—

(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times

#### Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1) It is proposed that there will be 2 staff working directly with up to 11 children aged between 2 and 6 years old, attending on a sessional, part-time or full day care basis.

(8)(a) It is proposed that there will be at least two staff present at all times while the service is in operation.

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:**

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) It is proposed that the children will have access to their activity room as well as the resources of the school such as the resource/sensory room and the outdoor play areas. The national school currently has 11 students and it is proposed that the children in the service will be invited to join them for special events such as the upcoming scarecrow festival and to share resources such as the outdoor play area. The children will also have access to services that visit the school such as the mobile library.

(b) There is a cosy seating area in the room where the children will be able rest and relax when they want to during the day. There are also fold out sleep mats, pillows and blankets for children to use if they need a sleep during the day.

(2)(a) The school has two enclosed outdoor play areas which the children in the service will have access to throughout each day. There is a grass playing pitch with a raised area that had been developed into a playground with swings and climbing equipment. There are also picnic tables and bench seats beside the playing pitch. Directly outside the door of the service is a yard with a tarmacadam surface which has planting boxes, a playhouse and other equipment for the children to engage with.

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## Initial Inspection of Proposed New 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:

This requirement has been met.

The service has a healthy eating policy. A kitchenette area with microwave oven and fridge had been set up in the entrance lobby of the service. It is proposed that children will bring their meals and snacks. Perishable foods will be stored in the fridge and meals that are to be eaten hot will be reheated in the microwave as required. Additional food will be available in the service if a child is hungry and needs more food.

The children will bring their own drink bottles of water that will be refilled from the tap in the kitchen in the main part of the school as required.

### 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 radiators were thermostatically controlled not to exceed 50°C. On the day of inspection the surface temperature of the radiators was 45°C.

Hot water in both sanitary accommodation areas was heated by electric water heaters. On the day of inspection hot water was 30°C which was within the recommended range of not greater than 43°C.

#### Infection Control

There is an infection prevention and control policy for the service. A hand washing sink is available in the sanitary accommodation area beside the activity room where the children could wash their hands at appropriate times of the day such as before eating and after using the toilet.

**Administration of Medication**

The service has a policy regarding the administration of medication in the service. Written parental consent would be sought prior to any medications being administered to children in the service.

**Safe Sleep**

The service has a safe sleep policy. Children will be monitored while they sleep.

**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:**

This requirement has been met.

(1) Both staff have current certification in first aid response (FAR) valid until October 2025.

(2)(a) There is a well-stocked first aid box on a wall mounted hook in the activity room where it could be easily accessed when required.

(b) The first aid box is available for use if required by a child attending the service.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) There was a record available for recording the monthly fire drills.

(b) There was a written record of the number, type and maintenance of the fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the service. The firefighting equipment was serviced annually, most recently in October 2023 and the smoke alarms were serviced twice a year.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

#### Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

The service provided a copy of insurance to the Registration Office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024, valid from 08.01.24 until 27.03.24 covering a maximum of 11 children on a full day care 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:**

This requirement has been met.

(a) The proposed premises is a modular building at the side of the national school which had previously been used as a classroom. This building was joined to the school by a short, covered area. The premises was assessed by an engineer and found to be sound and stable.

(b) The premises was safe and secure. Access to the service is through a door in the side of the building which was used for entry and exit. The door is only used by those accessing the service and would be kept secured while the service was in operation. Access to the school grounds is through a gate at the front of the school. Parents, children and visitors to the service will enter the grounds through the gate and be visible to the staff in the service through the windows along one wall. The school grounds are fully enclosed by fencing and gates which will prevent a child gaining unsupervised access to the road in front of the school.

(c) The room and sanitary accommodation area were naturally lit and ventilated through openable windows along one wall of the premises. This is supplemented by artificial light as required. Window blinds with cord safety clips were fitted to the windows to enable staff to manage the amount of sunlight that entered the room. The room was heated by wall mounted radiators as part of the oil-fired central heating system of the school. Wall thermostats were set to ensure the room temperature was maintained within the recommended temperature range of 18-22°C. On the day of inspection the room temperature was 19°C.

(d) The premises was clean and well maintained. The outdoor environment was also well maintained. The room had recently been repainted and decorated. There was a cleaning schedule for the service detailing the method and frequency of cleaning of all toys, equipment, fixtures, fitting and surfaces.

(e) There is a toilet and wash hand basin in the sanitary accommodation area adjacent to the activity room. This is for the exclusive use of children attending the service and was sufficient for up to 11 toilet trained children attending at any one time. The registered provider planned to install a nappy changing unit in this space to facilitate nappy changing for children who were not yet toilet trained.

Staff sanitary accommodation was located in the main school building, close to the early years service and would be shared with the staff in the school. This toilet and wash hand basin were sufficient provision for up to eight staff. There were four staff in the school and it was proposed that there would be at least two staff in the service, therefore there was sufficient sanitary provision in the service for the children and staff.

**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:**

This requirement has been met.

(1) The room measured 8.3m x 3.85m = 32m<sup>2</sup>. The space requirement for up to 11 children aged 2 – 3 years attending on a full day care basis would be 25.85m<sup>2</sup>. The space requirement for up to 11 children aged 3 – 6 years attending on a full day care basis would be 25.3m<sup>2</sup>. There was sufficient space for the proposed 11 children aged between 2 and 6 years to attend on a full day care basis.

(2) There was sufficient clear floor space in the room for the proposed number of children. The children will also have access to other rooms in the premises that were not measured or counted for the purpose of this inspection.