

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2023WW003

Name of Service: Little Stars on The Lane

Address of Service: 1 Seagreen Gate, Greystones, Co. Wicklow A63 C924

Email Address: ciara@naionra.org

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Ciara Watson and Kara Gargolinski McAlister

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

Proposed service type: Full Day Care

Proposed Number of Children: 33

Outcome of the F06 Inspection: Full Day Care and Sessional
Proposed number of children 33
Two to six years of age
Operational hours 07.00 – 19.00
Planning restrictions are in place to maximum number of 33 children.

Registered service: Registered Full Day Care Service for 33 Children

Date of Inspection:	1	4	1	1	2	0	2	3
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Inspection Undertaken by: H. Bourke

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: First Floor Trinity Building, IDA Business Park
Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

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 33 Children

Date of Registration: 24th November 2023

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

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	The proposed private childcare facility aims to provide full day care facilities for children aged two to six years of age. The service proposes to accommodate 33 children on a full day basis.
Premises	The proposed service consists of a two storey, purpose build premises which can accommodate the childcare service. There are two care rooms on the ground floor for the proposed children. A disability toilet with nappy changing facilities is also available on the ground floor. On the first floor there is a staff room, office, laundry room, kitchen and staff sanitary accommodation.
Staffing	The registered providers have appointed a manager and deputy manager for the service. There will be five adults working with children and these adults have all attained at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications.
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.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered providers and person in charge 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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a)</p> <p>The registered providers have ensured that there will be a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise if required.</p>
-------------------------	--

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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>The service proposes to accommodate 33 children on a full-time basis with an adequate number of adults working directly with the children at all times. There will be five staff members employed in the service.</p>
-------------------------	--

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)

The proposed service comprises of two care rooms. The rooms are bright and spacious and well laid out to cater for the age range of children who will be attending in each room. Montessori toys, dolls, colouring pencils, construction area, a cosy area, puzzles and jigsaws were amongst the age-appropriate toys and equipment that will be available for the children attending the service.

(b)

Low level beds have been provided for children over two years of age and suitable rest areas are provided in each care room.

(2)(a)

There is a large enclosed outdoor area provided to the side and rear of the premises; this area can be accessed from the corridor linking the two care rooms. The area is suitable, safe and secure.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

This outdoor space consists of a large, grassed surface area. There were no ponds, pits or other hazards observed in the outdoor area. There was an assortment of suitable toys available for all proposed age groups attending the pre-school.

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 has been met.

All meals and snacks will be provided by the proposed service. Hot meals will be sourced through an outside catering company and breakfast and snacks will be made on site in the proposed services kitchen. All food supplied will be in line with the Health Eating policy of the service. Refrigerated storage facilities are available on site in the kitchen. The staff will heat the meals required for children and prepare the snacks on site. Portable water will be available for children. If a child requires additional food the staff will provide a healthy snack as needed.

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.

- The manager stated the front door will be locked at all times, ensuring children cannot leave the service unsupervised and unauthorised access to the service cannot occur.
- The emergency exit doors were unobstructed.
- Storage is available for children’s belongings.
- Cleaning materials and equipment are locked in a cupboard in the service.
- The kitchen is inaccessible to children.
- A fridge is available in the kitchen for the storage of food.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

- A cleaning schedule for toys and equipment was available.
- The sanitary accommodations were well stocked with a sufficient supply of liquid soap and paper hand towel. The water temperature was recorded at 38.2°C. Foot pedal bins were available in all sanitary areas, for the safe disposal of used paper towels.
- Outdoor waste facilities are inaccessible to children.
- The pre-school rooms and sanitary accommodations are ventilated by openable windows and mechanical ventilation.
- Turnkey mechanisms are available on all external doors and emergency exits.

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)

The proposed manager has a current certification in FAR training.

(2)(a)

A suitably equipped first aid box was available for the service, with additional first aid boxes in both proposed pre-school rooms.

(b)

The first aid box was clearly identifiable and readily accessible.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New 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 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)

The proposed manager has indicated that fire drills will be carried out in both preschool rooms when the day care service is fully operational.

(b)

The maintenance record of the firefighting equipment and the smoke detection system was available and dated 31st of August 2023.

(4)

There were notices available in conspicuous positions in all care rooms of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire.

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.

Full insurance was provided to the registration office valid until 31/08/24 covering a maximum of 33 pre-school children on a full day care basis.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

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 proposed service is located on the ground floor of a purpose-built facility and appeared to be of a sound and stable structure.

(b)

The point of entry to the service is through the main door which is monitored by the manager and has a keypad entry from both inside and outside the service.

The outdoor area is secured with a high wooden fence and at the outside entrance there is a padlocked gate at the point of entry, this is to prevent a child leaving unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.

(c)

The premises benefits from natural light via windows in the proposed pre-school rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from ceiling lights in the rooms. There is a gas fired heating system in place which has been serviced in June 2023. Windows in the proposed care rooms can be opened but have restrictors in place and there is a combination of mechanical and natural ventilation in the sanitary area.

(d)

A cleaning schedule was in place in both proposed pre-school rooms. The premises and surrounding environment were clean and well maintained.

(e)

There was sanitary accommodation located within Room 1 and Room 2.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Room 1 had two separate child size toilets and two sinks. Room 2 had two separate child-sized toilets and two sinks. A separate toilet and wash hand basin was located on the first floor for adults working in the proposed service and another toilet with disability access was located on the ground floor. Thermostatically controlled hot water was available in the children's sanitary areas and the temperature of the water in the low sinks was 38.2°C.

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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of the number of children proposing to attend the service as demonstrated below:

(2)

Room 1.

The clear floor space measured 44.34 square metres.

Room 2

The clear floor space measured 46.06 square metres.

There is sufficient space in the service to cater for the proposed 33 pre-school children on a full-time basis in the proposed age ranges.