

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2024CC003

Name of Service: Cherryblossoms Creche Kanturk

Address of Service: Church Street, Kanturk, Co Cork, P51 F654

Email Address: cherryblossomscrechekanturk@gmail.com

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Christina Dunstan

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, Part-time and Sessional

Proposed Number of Children: 72

Outcome of the F06 Inspection: Full Day Care, Part-time and Sessional
72 pre-school children
Aged from 0-6 years
Opening from 7.00 to 18.30

Registered service: Registered Full Day Care, Part Time and Sessional Service for 72 Children

Date of Inspection:	1	0	0	4	2	0	2	4
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Inspection Undertaken by: F Collins

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: 13 Market Square, Mallow, Cork.

Rationale for Inspection
Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status: Registered Full Day Care, Part Time and Sessional Service for 72 Children

Date of Registration: 19th April 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	<p>Cherryblossoms Creche Kanturk is a new service proposed to be operated from the old Convent of Mercy primary school building located beside the Catholic Church in Kanturk.</p> <p>The service proposed to care for up to 72 children in full day care, part-time day care and sessional care from 07.00 to 18.30 daily.</p> <p>The registered provider will operate the early childhood care and education (ECCE) scheme for 38 weeks of the year.</p> <p>The premises is already the location where the afterschool service is operated from.</p>
Premises	<p>The premises was previously a primary school and has been refurbished to accommodate an early years service.</p> <p>The premises to one side is single story where the younger children are to be cared for with access to sleep rooms, toilets, nappy changing facilities, to the outdoor space and also to the large Halla, where the children will be able to play in poor weather.</p> <p>The pre-school rooms for the older children and for the school aged care service are upstairs on the newer side of the premises and are accessed by a stairs inside. These rooms have sanitary facilities within the care room.</p>
Staffing	<p>The registered provider proposed to have 12 staff working directly with the children and will have additional staff employed for cleaning, cooking and maintenance.</p>
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 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</p>

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	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 who was 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 Requirements for this regulation have been met. The registered provider proposes to have 12 staff working directly with the children attending the service.

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) The proposal of the registered provider will ensure there are adequate staff available to the children at all times.

The current proposal is that there will be three staff working in each of the four care rooms.

(8) (b) & (c) Not applicable as the service proposes to operate as a full day care service and will have a minimum of two staff on the premises at all times

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) The service proposes to open four care rooms.
- Room 1: The wobbler and toddler room, this room has suitable facilities for the children to play inside with access to additional resources in the storeroom where additional books, jigsaws, shape sorters are stored.
 - Room 3: This room is proposed to cater for children aged from 6 months to two years. There was suitable equipment for the children to play, roll and mobilise freely and with assistance. Areas of interest were created by use of low-level shelving but allowing the staff to be able to observe the children from all areas of the care room. A receipt for the purchase of chairs suitable for this age group has been seen and the chairs will be delivered prior to opening.
 - Room 5: This room is proposed to cater for children aged from 2 years to 6 years in a sessional service and also cater for the children who are remaining on in the service for full day care. The room is set up with resources appropriate to this age and the room is laid out into areas of interest and these are separated by low level shelving.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Room 6: this room is proposed to cater for the pre-school children and will in the afternoon cater for the school aged care service. The room had appropriate chairs for the various ages of child using the room and there were tables of varying height and access to play resources on low level shelving. <p>(b) The rest facilities in each of the care rooms was sufficient and will be assessed for adequacy on inspection. Each of the care rooms had adult sized couches with access to carpet floor mats and in the baby room, Room 3, there was access to low dog type beds where the children could rest and relax with dolls and other play equipment. These beds were a suitable size for the age range of children proposed to be cared for in Room 3.</p> <p>Sleep facilities for the service were laid out in 2 sleep rooms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Room 2: (Sleep room 1), this was beside Room 1, the wobbler/toddler room and had two standard cots and 5 stackable beds. Additional beds would be available when the registered providers previous service closes and when a delivery is received. The proposal is for the children to sleep when required and not at scheduled times. • Room 4: (Sleep room 2), this was set up to accommodate the children under the age of 2 years attending in Room 3, there was access to nine standard cots with suitable mattresses and bed linen. <p>(2) (a) The proposed service has access on the premises to a suitable outdoor area. The area is accessed via the door on the back corridor, via the Halla and via the stairs from upstairs. The outdoor area is a tarmacadam area with the proposed plan to have an artificial grass area, however due to poor weather conditions this was not laid.</p> <p>The outdoor area also had a section that was covered to allow for playing outside when wet and there will be access to ride on toys, sensory play materials and materials to encourage gross motor development.</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:

The plan for food provision within the service is as follows:

- The snack for mid-morning in the pre-school rooms will be provided by parents/guardians.
- The snack in the care rooms for the younger children will be provided by the service.
- The main meal in the middle of the day will be provided by the service with a one-week menu plan in place that ensures adequate and suitable nutritious food is provided to the children.
- Afternoon supper will be provided for all pre-school children by the service.
- Should children remain in the service after 5.30 they will receive a snack prior to going home, this will be provided by the service.

The service has a working kitchen onsite.

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:

- There is access to a fridge in all four rooms. The fridges are accessible to the staff and children and will ensure the safe storage of perishable items contained in children's snacks.
- There is access to hot water, liquid hand soap and to paper towels at each of the children's and adult wash hand basins.
- There is hot water at each of the sinks used by the children and adults and the water throughout was recorded at less than 43°C.
- Gloves, aprons and access to a sink are available at all nappy changing areas.
- There are lidded pedal operated bins available for the disposal of the used paper towels in the toilets and in the care rooms.
- The kitchen is not accessible to the children.
- There are no full-length glass doors that might pose a risk to the children.
- Cleaning agents are stored out of the reach of children.

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- The dedicated outdoor play area is fitted with a high wall and secure fencing with additional fencing/gates to be added to provide a second line of security for the children in the service.
- The toys and equipment assessed are free from pinch and crush points.
- The high shelving units are secured to the wall and could not be pulled down easily.
- The blinds on the windows in the care rooms were high and out of reach of the children in all rooms.
- There are no ponds, pits or other hazardous areas in the outdoor area.
- All electric cords and cables observed are in good condition.
- Kettles are stored in the kitchen area and in the staff room and are not accessible to the children.
- The fire exit doors were unobstructed on inspection.
- The firefighting equipment was safely tethered to the walls throughout.
- The surface radiator temperatures as assessed throughout ranged between 42.1 and 48.7°C.
- All wooden surfaces have been sealed with appropriate paint/varnish to ensure they are easily cleaned.

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:

- (1) The registered provider currently has five staff trained in First Aid responder and the plan to train the remaining staff working in the service is planned. The registered provider has stated the roster will be covered at all times with a first aid qualified staff member.

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	(2) (a) & (b) There were first aid boxes available for each of the care rooms with additional supplies in the office.
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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:	<p>(1) (a) The registered provider has a recording system in place for recording the fire drills that will take place onsite.</p> <p>(b) The records for the maintenance for the fire fighting equipment was available. The fire fighting equipment was serviced on 01.04.2024. The fire alarm system was serviced on 04.03.2024.</p> <p>(4) The fire evacuation procedures were displayed on the walls throughout.</p>
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Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:	Full insurance was provided to the Registration Team for a Full Day Care Service covering a maximum of 72 children at any one time, valid from 29/04/2024 until 28/04/2025.
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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>(a) The premises all areas appeared to be of sound and stable structure.</p> <p>(b) The main entrance is the entrance planned to be used for all children and their guardians to enter and exit the premises. This door is secured and an inside door accessible by keypad lock further secures the premises. There is a high gate and railing to the front of the premises and second secure gate is planned for the</p>
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	<p>outdoor space to further secure the outdoor space. This should ensure that no child can leave the service and no unauthorised person can gain access to the premises.</p> <p>(c) The lighting for all care rooms is by windows and ceiling fluorescent lights. The toilets are lit by artificial lights and through windows. This level of lighting would allow the children to carry out activities without shadows.</p> <p>All four care rooms and two sleep rooms are heated by oil fired central heating. The care rooms assessed were cold early in the day and when the heating was turned on the room temperatures rose to between 19 and 20.9°C. This will afford the children comfort when playing and doing activities.</p> <p>Ventilation in all care rooms and sleep rooms is through openable windows throughout. The children’s and adult toilets are ventilated through openable windows.</p> <p>(d) The premises was clean, well maintained, and appeared to be in a good state of repair.</p> <p>(e) There are 10 children’s toilets and three nappy changing facilitates. There are two children’s toilets in each of the pre-school rooms upstairs (Rooms 5&6) and six toilets for the children downstairs. Downstairs there is access to two nappy changing units. Each of the toilets/nappy changing units have close access to wash hand basins.</p> <p>The premises are attached to the mains waste for the town of Kanturk.</p>
<p>Requirement not met:</p>	<p>(d)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The lino covering the care rooms floor were not meeting the door saddles, as the door had been replaced by fire doors there was areas not covered, and will be a place where dirt and debris will be able to gather. 2. The door saddles had not been sealed and were not easily cleaned. 3. The flooring at the end of the downstairs corridor had a small hole where a tile was missing, this posed a trip hazard. 4. The tiles in the toilet area and the entrance area of Room 6 and under the blackboard of Room 5, were broken exposed chipboard underneath, these areas posed a trip hazard and also were not easily cleaned.
<p>Response from Provider:</p>	<p>(d)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The gaps have been filled and sealed, photographic evidence of this has been received. 2. The door saddles have been sealed with appropriate varnish and are now easily cleaned. 3. The flooring at the end of the corridor has been filled and a photograph of this has been received. 4. All tiles identified as broken have now been replaced and photographic evidence of this has been received.
<p>Summary Comment:</p>	<p>The requirements for this regulation have been met.</p>

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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.
- (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.
- (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:

- (1) The registered provider has planned for there to be adequate space to be available to the children in each care room and in the service overall.
- (2) The care room space is as follows:
- Room 1: for use by children aged 18 months to 3 years, this room measured 47.2SqM.
 - Room 3: for use to care for children aged 6 months to 2 years. This room measured 39.67SqM.
 - Room 5: this room will be used in the morning for the sessional service and in the afternoon for the full day care for children aged 2-5 years. This room measured 61.7SqM.
 - Room 6: This room will be used for the second sessional service in the morning and for the school aged care service in the afternoon. This room measured 60.1SqM.
- The service has capacity for the proposed numbers to attend in the age ranges as defined by the registered provider.
- (4) The registered provider when providing:
- (a) The sessional service and
 - (b) The full day care service
- The minimum floor space is available.