

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2024DL003
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Child Led
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Tawnalary Donegal Co Donegal
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<b>Email Address:</b>	childleddonegal@gmail.com
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<b>Name of Proposed Registered Provider:</b>	Sharon Graham Porter
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<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Childminding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Proposed service type:</b>	Full day care
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	40
<b>Outcome of the F06 Inspection</b> (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Service be registered for a total of 40 children in the age range 1 to 6 years for full day care. Service to operate between the hours of 9.00am and 5.30pm.
<b>Registered service:</b>	Registered Full Day Care service 40 Children

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	1	3	0	8	2	0	2	4
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<b>Inspection Undertaken by:</b>	A Spain
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector

<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate Primary Care Centre
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# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

	Church Avenue Tullamore Co Offaly R35K1W4

<b>Rationale for Inspection</b>
<b>Proposed New Service</b>

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day Care service 40 Children
<b>Date of Registration:</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> August 2024

<b>Authority to Inspect</b>
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>	Child led is a proposed full day care service located in a residential area on the outskirts of Donegal town. The proposed service is seeking to care for a total of 40 children across two adjacent premises on the same site. It is proposed that children in the age range 1 to 6 years be cared for between the hours of 9.00am and 5.30pm.
<b>Premises</b>	The premises comprises of two separate single storey buildings situated side by side. Both buildings have an entrance hallway, playroom, back lobby incorporating a storage area and sanitary accommodation for both children and staff. A separate sleep room is provided in one building. A separate storeroom, kitchenette and an office are unique to the second building. Both buildings have separate enclosed outdoor play areas. Parking is provided outside the front of the proposed service.

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<b>Staffing</b>	The proposed service will be staffed by six adult working directly with the children. All six staff have certification to confirm childcare qualifications at Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) level 6 to level 8. An auxiliary staff member is available to provide meals in the service. The registered provider is available to provide relief cover as required.
<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 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)

This requirement has been met.

The service has a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise in the proposed service. Both staff members are proposed to work directly in 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.*

#### Requirement met:

(1)

This requirement has been met.

The service proposes to care for a maximum of 10 children in the age range 1 to 2 years and 8 children in the age range 2 to 3 years in “Little Wonders” with four staff members present at all times. Children will be cared for on a full day care basis in the room.

The service proposes to care for a maximum of 22 children in the age range 3 to 5 years in “Curious Minds” with two staff members present at all times. Children will be cared for on a Sessional basis. It is proposed to care for up to 16 children after sessional hours and for full day care in the room with 2 staff members present 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:**

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

Both playrooms have an adequate and suitable supply of age appropriate toys and play equipment available for use by the children both indoors and in the outdoor areas off both rooms. Low level shelving is provided in both playrooms for children to easily access and retrieve play equipment. Low level washhand basins are provided in both rooms for children to wash hands after play and prior to meals and snacks served in the rooms. Presses are available to store toys and play equipment not in constant or everyday use in the rooms. Low level tables and chairs are provided for children to sit for play activities, relaxation and meals. Notice boards are erected in both rooms to display children's arts and crafts work and develop areas of interest in the rooms.

Toys and play equipment available in "Little Wonders" includes wooden jigsaws, loose parts, building blocks and shapes for tabletop activities. Dolls, prams, cots, baby bottles, a kitchen and kitchen utensils are available in a home corner. Arts and crafts

	<p>materials include crayons, paint, shapes and paper. A raised sand and water tray is provided for messy play. Wheel along and musical toys are provided.</p> <p>Alternative and additional toys and play equipment available in “Curious Minds” include a construction area with tools and toolboxes, a farm and magnet toys.</p>
	<p>(b)</p> <p>The rest area in “Little Wonders” comprises of an open low level tent in which soft toys are located. Low level soft seating is provided beside the tent in an area where books are stored on a low level open shelving unit. A sleep room is provided directly off the playroom with 15 standard cots for children to rest and sleep as required.</p> <p>The rest area in “Curious Minds” comprises of a low level soft couch and low level soft chairs in the book corner in the playroom. Eleven low level beds are stored in the store room directly off the playroom for children to rest and sleep in the playroom as required. Open shelving is available in storage areas off both rooms for childrens individual blankets and linen.</p> <p>Soft foam cushions provided with washable covers are provided on timber pallets in the outdoor play areas off the rooms to allow children sit and relax when playing outdoors.</p>
	<p>(2)(a)</p> <p>Both playrooms have separate enclosed outdoor play areas with direct access from the rooms to permit toys to be easily taken from indoors to outdoors from the rooms. The outdoor play areas are safely and securely fenced in by timber fencing which is safely anchored to the ground. Timber gates bolted from above child height are provided to prevent unsupervised exit of children to the carpark when playing outdoors. Both areas are surfaced with a combination of smooth tarmac for wheel and push along toys, an all weather surface and a bark chipping finish. Toys outdoors in the play area off “ Little wonders “ include tyres to climb through, a slide, a sand and water box and a play box with assorted. Toys and play equipment in the play area off “Curious Minds” include tyres, a mud kitchen, a play house, a sea-saw, a climbing frame and a large timber sand box with shovels, buckets and spaded for imaginative and construction play.</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:

This requirement has been met.

All meals and snacks are prepared in the service for children in attendance. A three week menu plan is available for mid-morning snack, lunch, afternoon snack and evening tea. Children in attendance on a sessional basis have the option of bringing snacks. A refrigerator is provided in both playrooms if parents and guardians choose to provide their childrens snacks. Sinks plumbed with hot water are provided in both playrooms to assist with wash up and cleaning after meal and snack 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:

This requirement has been met.

High level presses are provided in the playrooms to store chemicals and cleaning agents in use in the rooms. The glass doors leading to the service hallways and entrances allow easy visibility off all approaching the service. Viewing panels on the doors leading from the hallway to the playrooms allow easy visibility of all seeking access to the rooms. A high level push button is provided on the wall close to the doors leading from the playrooms to the hallways to guard against unsupervised exit of children from the rooms. Visibility strips are provided at low level on the glass panel doors leading from both playrooms to outdoors. A telephone system allows communication between rooms and between the office and rooms in the service. The separate premises and entrances for each playroom facilities ease of monitoring at drop and collection times.

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)

Five of the staff proposed to work in the service have up to date First Aid Responder training with an expiry date of the 15 July 2025.

2(a)(b)

First aid boxes are stored in high level presses in both playrooms.

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:**

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

A recording system is available to record monthly fire drills as conducted in the service.

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	<p>(b)</p> <p>The maintenance record for the fire fight equipment wall mounted in the front hallway and at the back door exits from both premises confirms that fire extinguishers were newly purchased in March 2024.</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire is wall mounted in both playrooms. A Fire assembly point is positioned on a wall boundary in the carpark at the front of the service.</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:

This requirement has been met. The service has insurance cover for a maximum of 40 children in a full day care service. Insurance is valid from the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

### 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 is located in a newly constructed purpose built premises which is in a good state of repair and maintenance.

(b) Both access doors leading from the hallways inside the entrance doors to the playrooms have keypads to guard against unauthorised access to the playrooms. The service is connected to both the public drainage and water supply. Shelving and pressed are provided in the lobbies outside of the playrooms for childrens bags, personal belongings, coats and boots. The lobbies also provide suitable areas for the storage of staff personal belongings outside of the playrooms.

(c) Openable windows coupled with fluorescent light fittings which are flush with the ceilings and covered with shatterproof diffusers ensure a good mix of natural and artificial lighting and ventilation in all rooms in use in the service. The air to water heating system and wall mounted thermometers ensure that room temperatures between 18- 22°C can be maintained in playrooms and a room temperature between 16-20°C in the sleep room off “Little Wonders”.

(d) The walls throughout the service are finished with an easily cleanable smooth washable paint. The floors are covered with a heavy duty floor lino which is well sealed at wall and floor junctions for ease of cleaning. Lidded bins are provided for the temporary storage of refuse in the rooms. The plant rooms off both playrooms provide suitable storage areas for brushes and cleaning equipment in areas outside of the playrooms.

(e) Two low level toilets and two low level washhand basins are provided in the sanitary accommodation off both playrooms. A nappy changing unit is provided in the sanitary accommodation off both playrooms. A second nappy changing station is provided in the ability access toilet in “Little Wonders”. Shelving is provided in the nappy changing areas for childrens nappies and individual creams. The water supply to the washhand basins is thermostatically controlled to a temperature not exceeding 43° c. Soap dispensers and low level hand air dryers are provided adjacent to the washhand basins. The ability access toilet and washhand basin off the front hallway in both premises provides suitable sanitary accommodation for adults working in the service.

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The children's sanitary accommodation is provided with openable windows for ventilation purposes. A mechanical ventilation system is provided to ventilate the internal staff toilet areas.

### 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.
- (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.
- (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).
- (5) A registered provider of a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a minimum of 2 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.

#### Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1)

Little Wonders playground:

An area of 48.95m<sup>2</sup> provides adequate floor space for up to 10 children in the age range 1 to 2 years and up to 8 children in the age range 2 to 3 years cared for on a full day care basis.

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### Curious Minds Playroom:

An area of 54.71m<sup>2</sup> provided adequate floor space for up to 16 children in the age range 3 to 4 years and cared for on a full day care basis or up to 22 children in the age range 3 to 4 years and cared for on a sessional basis.

(2) Adequate floor space is provided in both playrooms for the number of children in the age range seeking registration in a full day care service.