

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

**Tusla I.D:** TU2024DS002

**Name of Service:** Ardilea Childcare Ltd.

**Address of Service:** Unit 103, Block C, Ardilea Crescent, Dublin 14, Dublin.

**Email Address:** ciaranfitzpatrick@outlook.ie

**Name of Proposed Registered Provider:** Ciaran Fitzpatrick

<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	✓	<b>Part-Time</b>	✓	<b>Drop-In</b>	
	<b>Sessional</b>	✓	<b>Childminding</b>		<b>Temporary</b>	

**Proposed service type:** Full day care/Part time care/Sessional care

**Proposed Number of Children:** 27

**Outcome of the F06 Inspection**  
(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)  
The registered provider proposes to accommodate 27 children aged 1 to 6 years on a full time, part time and sessional care basis. The provider proposes to operate between 07:30 and 18:30 Monday to Friday, 51 weeks per year.

**Registered service:** Registered Full Day/Part Time/Sessional Service for 27 children.

**Date of Inspection:** 0 3 0 7 2 0 2 4

**Inspection Undertaken by:** R. Brien

**Title:** Early Years Inspector

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Kilmainham, Dublin 8, D08 X01F.

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

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

**Registration Status:** Registered Full Day/Part Time/Sessional Service for 27 children.

**Date of Registration:** 16<sup>th</sup> July 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	Ardilea Childcare Limited is a proposed early years service offering full day, part-time and sessional care to children aged between 1 to 6 years. The provider proposes to accommodate 27 children and operate Monday to Friday from 07:30 to 18:30 for 51 weeks of the year.
<b>Premises</b>	The premises is a purpose-built facility on the ground floor of an apartment block within a residential development in south Dublin. There are two care rooms in the service, a Toddler room for children between 1 – 3 years of age and a Preschool room for children between 3- 6 years of age. The premises also includes a kitchen, sanitary accommodation for staff and sanitary accommodation for children. There is an enclosed outdoor space on the premises which can also be accessed directly from one of the care rooms. Off road parking is provided at the side of the building.
<b>Staffing</b>	The registered provider has appointed a manager and deputy manager for the service. There will be five adults employed to work with children when the service is fully operational. Three adults have currently been recruited by the registered provider.
<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.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

### 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 requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider has ensured that there will be a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise when required.

### 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1) A total of four staff will be employed to work directly with the children. The person in charge will be available to assist in care rooms where necessary.

### 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

The care rooms are bright and spacious. Care rooms are fully equipped with a range of play materials and equipment suitable to the age and stage of the children attending each room. Low level furniture and shelving are available containing materials for manipulative, creative, sensory and imaginative play. These include designated

	<p>interest areas including a home corner, dress-up area, art and construction areas all accessible to the children at their level. A rest area with books is available in each care room.</p> <p>(b) Five cots are available for children under 2 years of age and 6 stackable floor beds are available for children attending the Toddler room. Sleep mats are available for children over 2 years of age attending on a full day care basis who may require sleep or rest. Care rooms have suitable and comfortable rest areas available which contained soft matting or seating.</p> <p>(2)(a) There is an enclosed outdoor area provided on the premises. The area can be directly accessed from one care room and has an artificial grass surface. Suitable play equipment and materials are available including an outdoor kitchen, ride-on toys and a slide. A perimeter fence surrounds the entire outdoor area and a gate which leads to an area outside of the premises is secured to prevent unauthorised entry or a child leaving unsupervised.</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 requirement has been met.

A kitchen is available for the preparation and provision of adequate food and drinks for children. A three-week menu plan is available to demonstrate that varied nutritious food will be provided. A hot meal will be provided by an external catering company. Perishable foods will be stored in the refrigerator. Drinking water will be available on the premises. A healthy eating policy is in place.

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## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

### 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.

- External doors are secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service. The gate in the outdoor area is suitably secured.
- Emergency exit doors are unobstructed to allow for safe evacuation.
- There are no loose cables or cords that could pose a risk of injury.
- An infection control policy is in place to inform practice.
- There was provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste including the provision of foot pedal operated bins throughout the service.
- Cleaning schedules are in place.
- Cleaning materials are stored safely.
- The kitchen was inaccessible to children.

### 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) The deputy person in charge has current certification in First Aid Responder (FAR) training.
- (2)(a)(b) Suitably equipped first aid boxes are provided in the service. They are clearly identifiable and easily accessible.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The proposed registered provider has indicated that fire drills will be carried out on a monthly basis.

(b) There is a record available relating to the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the commissioning and servicing of the fire detection and alarm system.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire were displayed conspicuously throughout the service and the fire assembly point was identified.

### 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.

Evidence of insurance for the required number of children was available. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the service. Registration of the service is contingent on the registered provider's compliance with Regulation 28.

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## 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 new service is located on the ground floor of an apartment block and the proposed provider confirmed that the premises is of sound and stable structure.
- (b) The proposed provider has taken appropriate measures to safeguard the premises. All external doors and gates were locked to prevent unauthorised access or a child leaving unsupervised.
- (c) The service was adequately lit, heated and ventilated. There was a good level of natural lighting in the care rooms with artificial lighting available as required. Blinds have been fitted to control light levels when required in care rooms.  
Windows can be opened to provide natural ventilation. The service has thermostatically controlled underfloor heating throughout and room temperatures were maintained between 18-22°C. The sanitary facilities were ventilated by mechanical means of ventilation.
- (d) The premises and surrounding environment were clean and maintained as required. A cleaning schedule was in place and cleaning equipment was available in the care rooms.
- (e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities have been provided. There are two toilets and wash hand basins and one nappy changing unit and wash hand basin designated for children's use. There is one toilet and wash hand basin available for adults. Thermostatically controlled hot and cold water was available in all hand wash sinks.

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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.

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of children attending the service.

(2)

There was sufficient clear floor space to accommodate the proposed number of 27 children in respect of their age range.

Room Name	Proposed number of children and type of service	Proposed age of children	Space available m <sup>2</sup>
Room 1 (Toddler Room)	11 full day Care	1-3 years	33.8m <sup>2</sup>
Room 2 (Preschool Room)	16 full day care	3-6 years	37.8m <sup>2</sup>