

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

**Tusla I.D:** TU2024DY005

**Name of Service:** Eden Montessori School

**Address of Service:** Unit 1, Block 6  
St Clare's Park  
Harolds Cross  
Dublin 6W  
D6W TP38

**Email Address:** haroldscross@edenmontessorischool.com

**Name of Proposed Registered Provider:** Gillian Deane

<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>	

<b>Proposed service type:</b>	The registered provider proposes to provide full day care / part-time / sessional care for children in the 2-6 year age range.
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	75
<b>Outcome of the F06 Inspection</b> (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	74
<b>Registered service:</b>	Full Day, Part time, and Sessional Service 74 children

**Date of Inspection:** 1 2 0 8 2 0 2 4

**Inspection Undertaken by:** Mary Redmond and Helen Bourke  
**Title:** Early Years Inspectors

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Tusla – Child and Family Agency  
Trinity Building, IDA Business Park,  
Bray, Co Wicklow

### Rationale for Inspection

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### Proposed New Service

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Full Day, Part time, and Sessional Service 74 children
<b>Date of Registration:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2024

### 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>	The proposed private childcare facility aims to provide full and part-time care and concurrent sessional services for children in the 2 to 6 year age range. The service had applied to accommodate 75 children and the proposed hours of operation are from 8am to 6pm.
<b>Premises</b>	The premises is a purpose-built facility located at ground level within a residential development in Dublin south city. There are four care rooms provided; a laundry room, kitchen, office and staff room are also available. There is a large enclosed outdoor space on the premises.
<b>Staffing</b>	The registered provider has appointed a manager for the service and a further nine adults have been recruited to work with children when the service is operational. All adults employed to work with children have attained major awards in Early Childhood Care and Education at a minimum of Level 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications, or qualifications deemed by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth (DCEDIY) to be equivalent.
<b>Methodology</b>	<p>The inspection was an announced pre-registration inspection to assess suitability of the service for registration under the Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The inspection focused on three areas; Governance, Safety and the Premises.</p> <p>The findings on inspection are based on information obtained through examination of documentation, direct observation, and discussion with relevant staff and are documented in the inspection report and submitted to the registration office for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving registration.</p>

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<b>Acknowledgement</b>	The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the representative for the proposed registered provider who facilitated 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:**

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) An adequate number of adults have been recruited to work in this service.

**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 service comprises of four pre-school rooms. The rooms are bright and spacious and suitably laid out to cater for the needs of children who will be attending in each room.

(1)(b) Suitable sleep mats with appropriate storage for linen are available for children who will require rest during the day and rest areas are provided in each room.

(2)(a) There is a large outdoor area provided on the premises. The area is directly accessed from two of the care rooms and access from the other two care rooms is via the main corridor. The area has an impact absorbing covering and is enclosed with wooden fencing. Suitable play equipment and materials are available including a playhouse, climbing frame, messy play tables and ride-on toys. There were no ponds, pits or other hazards observed in the outdoor area.

**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 registered provider proposes to engage an external catering company to supply the main hot meal; all other snacks will be provided by the service. A menu plan is in place to demonstrate that a variety of nutritious food will be available. The registered provider has notified the relevant health authority regarding the regeneration of hot food on the premises.

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:**

The requirement has been met.  
 The main door is secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service. A keypad access system is in place for authorised adults.  
 The outdoor area is suitably secured.  
 All window blind cords are secured and windows have been fitted with fire-safe restrictors.  
 Emergency exits are clear and fire exit doors have been appropriately secured with thumb-turn locks.  
 There is provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste including the provision of foot pedal operated bins in the care rooms.

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) One adult has current certification in First Aid Responder (FAR) training and one other adult is in the process of receiving certification.  
 (2)(a) A suitably equipped first aid box is available in 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 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 designated person in charge has indicated that fire drills will be carried out.  
(1)(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 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 insurance policy was submitted to the registration office the service is insured for a maximum of 62 children at any one time. The insurance policy is valid from the 26/08/2024 to 27/03/2025.

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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:

The requirement has been partially met.

- (a) The proposed service is located at ground floor level in a fully adapted unit located within an apartment block and appears to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) There is one point of entry to the service. The front door is secured with keypad access for authorised adults.  
The outdoor area is secured to prevent a child leaving the area unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.
- (c) The premises benefits from natural light via windows in all pre-school rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from covered fluorescent ceiling lights in the rooms. Thermostatically controlled hot water (which did not exceed 43 degrees Celsius) and a centrally controlled heating system is available. Windows in the care rooms can be opened and mechanical ventilation is provided in the sanitary areas.
- (d) The premises and its environs are clean and well maintained.
- (e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities have been provided.  
There are four toilets and four wash hand basins designated for children’s use. Electric hand dryers have been provided in the children’s sanitary accommodation. There are two nappy changing units with wash hand basins also available. One toilet and one wash hand basin has been provided for adults, with a separate facility for adults and children with a disability.

#### Requirement not met:

- (c) The ambient temperatures of the proposed care rooms varied between 23.4 and 27 degrees Celsius from the time of arrival of the inspectors at 11am and for the duration of the inspection. Mitigating measures such as the opening of windows and doors and adjusting the central heating system did not reduce the temperatures. At 2pm four portable air-conditioning units were set up in each of the care rooms. The temperatures of the rooms were recorded at 2.20pm and the temporary measure of using these units reduced the temperatures to between 20.2 and 21.2 degrees Celsius. There is no permanent means of controlling the temperature in the care rooms to maintain them within the required limits.  
Habitable rooms must be maintained between 18 and 22 degrees Celsius.  
The ambient outdoor temperature on the day of inspection was recorded between 18.9 and 20.9 degrees Celsius.

#### Response from Provider:

Permanent air conditioning units will be installed to ensure temperature can be maintained within the care rooms throughout the year. The units will be installed

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	during the weekend when no children are present. Completion date for works is October 2024.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	The proposed registered provider provided documentation to confirm that permanent air-conditioning units will be installed in October 2024.

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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.
- (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.

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of 74 children proposing to attend the service as demonstrated.

(2)

Room	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4
Clear floor space	37.32 sqm	28.73 sqm	39.32 sqm	36.38 sqm
Proposed age range	3-6 years	2-3 years	3-6 years	2-3 years
Maximum number children	16 (FDC) 20 (Sessional)	12 (FDC)	17 (FDC) 22 (Sessional)	15 (FDC) 20 (Sessional)

There is adequate floor space for 60 children in the proposed age ranges attending on a full day care basis.

(3)

The required floor space for a maximum number of 74 children who may attend a concurrent sessional service is available.