

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2024FL003

Name of Service: Roots and Wings on the Green

Address of Service: 39 Beresford Crescent, Donabate, Co. Dublin, K36 K3H7

Email Address: rootsandwingsdonabate@gmail.com

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Nickola Cullen

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

Proposed service type: Full Day Care/ Part-Time / Sessional

Proposed Number of Children: 87

Outcome of the F06 Inspection
(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)

- To cater for children aged 1 to 6 years on a Full Day, Part Time & Sessional basis.
- To accommodate 79 pre-school children at any one time based on the clear floor space calculated at inspection and the upper age ranges per room specified on inspection. This information is outlined under Regulation 30.

Registered service: Registered Full Day/Part Time/Sessional Service for 45 Children

Date of Inspection: 2 7 0 6 2 0 2 4

Inspection Undertaken by: S. Cully

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: 181-189 Lakeshore Drive
Airside Business Park, Swords, Co. Dublin K67 Y5C6.

Rationale for Inspection
Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status: Registered Full Day/Part Time/Sessional Service for 45 Children

Date of Registration: 3rd July 2024

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	Roots and Wings on the Green will be the fourth early years service owned and operated by the registered provider, all located in County Dublin. It is proposed that Roots and Wings on the Green will provide full-day-care, part-time day care and sessional preschool to children from 07.30am – 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. The registered provider proposes to register to care for children aged from 1 – 6 years. The service proposes to participate in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme for 38 weeks of the year.
Premises	The proposed new service would be conducted from a recently constructed purpose-built 2-storey premises located in a developing housing estate in Donabate. There are 5 care rooms provided in the premises, namely the Wobbler Room, the Toddler Room and Preschool 1 room located on the ground floor, and the Preschool 2 and Preschool 3 room located on the first floor. A sleep room is located on the ground floor between the Wobbler and the Toddler room. Ancillary accommodation includes sanitary facilities on both floors, a kitchen on the ground floor and an office and a staff room located on the first floor. A fully enclosed outdoor play area is located to the rear and to the front of the premises.
Staffing	The proposed registered provider has a designated person assigned as the service manager who would coordinate the day-to-day operational management of the service, with a named person available to deputise when required. Nine further staff members have been recruited and it is proposed that the number of staff employed will increase as the service reaches maximum capacity.
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 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>
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and person in charge. The person in charge 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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met.

It is proposed that the service manager would be the designated person in charge on a daily basis and that a named person would be appointed to deputise as 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.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—

(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The proposed registered provider is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 1 of Schedule 6 and would ensure that an adequate number of adults would at all times work directly with the children in the service.

The registered provider has employed 10 staff members including the service manager and it is proposed that the number of staff employed will increase as the service reaches maximum capacity.

(8)(a) The proposed registered provider would ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times when the service is in operation.

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.
- (3) A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph applies, shall ensure that—
- (a) a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school 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 were equipped with age-appropriate furniture and equipment. The rooms were laid out well and were clearly defined and included well-resourced home corners, libraries, construction areas, art and craft materials, natural and sensory play materials. The Wobbler and Toddler room both had an adult sized armchair in the care room for comforting or feeding younger children. The materials were stored at an accessible level to the pre-school children. A secure outdoor area is located to the rear of the service.

(b) Three standard cots were provided in the sleep room located in-between the Toddler and Wobbler room for children who require access to a cot. The service also has seven appropriate floor beds available for use by children under the age of 24 months with a sleep plan in place. The proposed registered provider is aware of national safe sleep best practice guidelines. Stackable beds will be available for pre-school children aged 2 years and older who would require or wish to sleep or rest in the service. A rest area is available in the care rooms with soft matting, cushions, soft chairs or armchairs to enable a child to rest and take a break from activities throughout the day if required.

(3)(a) The outdoor play area is fully enclosed and secure. There is a gate leading from the rear garden to an enclosed garden to the front of the premises. This gate is secured internally by a latch not accessible to the children. The outdoor play area is observed to be suitable and secure, and no safety hazards are noted. The area is surfaced with artificial grass.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

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.

The proposed registered provider has employed a chef to prepare and cook all meals and snacks on-site for children attending on a full day care and part time basis. The children attending on a sessional ECCE only basis will bring snacks from home that will be in-line with the service's Healthy Eating policy with perishable items stored in a refrigerator. A 3-week seasonal menu will be available and drinking water would be made available to the children throughout the day.

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.

There are no hazards observed by the inspector that would impact the health, safety or welfare of the children attending the service. Appropriate measures have been undertaken in the service to ensure the safety of the children.

- The external doors, internal doors, windows and side gates were appropriately secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service.
- Internal doors leading to storage rooms were secured to prevent access to children.
- The windows in the care rooms on the first floor were fitted with restrictive opening devices. The windows in the care rooms on the first floor have fittings to allow windows to be restricted or opened wide but do not pose a risk to children.
- Blind cords were secure in all the care rooms and sleep room.
- Suitable handrails are provided on the staircases. The staircases are also adequately lit, and the floor covering is in good condition.
- All furniture and equipment were clean and in good condition and suitable for use by the proposed age groups.
- The heating system for the service was thermostatically controlled to prevent radiators from exceeding the maximum surface temperature of 50°C.
- Thermostatically controlled running water was available at the wash hand basins in the service.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

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) Ten staff members who will be employed in the service holding in-date first aid response (FAR) training.

(2)(a)(b) First aid boxes were suitably equipped and stored in readily accessible and conspicuous positions in the care rooms, on each floor and in the kitchen available at all times if necessary.

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) A template is available which would be used to record fire drills that would take place monthly at the service.

(b) A record is maintained of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke detection system in the service. The firefighting equipment and the smoke alarm were recorded as last maintained 24/06/2024.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the care rooms in the service.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

A statement of insurance was received by the Registration Office and is valid from 15/07/2024 to 27/03/25 for a maximum of 45 children on a full day care basis therefore registration approved for 45 children.

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 premises is a recently constructed purpose-built facility which appears to be in good condition throughout.

(b) The premises appears safe and was found to be appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the early years' service. Magnetic locks and digital keypads are in place on the front door with only staff and parents provided with access codes. There is a second internal door leading to the care rooms which also has a digital keypad restricting access to those with an access code. The side entrance leading to the rear of the service is secured. A camera is located at the front door and each care room has an internal intercom system in place in place to communicate with visitors at the front door before allowing access to the premises.

(c)

Lighting: The premises is adequately lit by means of natural lighting supplemented by artificial lighting.

Heating: The premises is heated by an electricity powered heating system. The ambient temperatures of the care rooms and the sanitary accommodation were within the optimum care room temperature range of 18-22°C on the day of inspection. The sleep room which will accommodate children over the age the age of 12 months was within the acceptable range of 18-22°C.

Ventilation: Ventilation in the care rooms is provided by means of openable windows. The internal sanitary accommodation and nappy changing areas are fitted mechanical ventilation units.

(d) The premises is in a clean condition and in a good state of repair.

(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary accommodation including nappy changing facilities were available in the service.

- In the sanitary facility shared by the Wobbler and Toddler room there is one child-sized toilet, one child wash hand basin for children, a nappy changing area with 2 nappy changing stations and a wash hand basin for adults.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Toddler room had a wash-hand basin is accessible in the care room. • In the Wobbler room has a wash-hand basin is accessible in the care room. • In the Preschool 1 room, 2 child-sized toilets and 2 wash-hand basins are provided. A wash-hand basin is also accessible in the care room. • In the Preschool 2 room, 2 child-sized toilets and 2 wash-hand basins are provided. A wash-hand basin is also accessible in the care room. • In the Preschool 3 room, 2 child-sized toilets and 2 wash-hand basins are provided. A wash-hand basin is also accessible in the care room. • A sanitary facility designated for use by staff is available on the ground floor and first floor. There is also a wheelchair accessible sanitary facility located on the ground floor.
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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:	<p>(1) The clear floor space available in the service can accommodate 79 pre-school children. The proposed registered provider is aware of the minimum clear floor space requirements as specified in Schedule 7 and that the space requirements may change due to age range of children and the duration of their daily attendance in the service.</p> <p>(2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The clear floor space in the Wobbler room measured 28.34 square metres which meets the space requirements for the proposed 10 pre-school children aged 1-2 years attending on a part-time or on a full day care basis. • The clear floor space in the Toddler room measured 28.3 square metres which meets the space requirements for the proposed 12 pre-school children aged 2-3 years attending on a part-time or on a full day care basis. The service is considering using this room initially to accommodate children between the ages of 1 – 3 years, with the clear floor space allowing for a maximum of 10 children of this age range attending on a full-time basis. • The clear floor space in the Preschool 1 room measured 37.8 square metres which meets the space requirements for the proposed 16 pre-school children aged 2 year 8 months -5 years (ECCE eligible) attending on a part-time or on a full day care basis or 20 children when attending the ECCE session. • The clear floor space in the Preschool 2 room measured 32.2 square metres which meets the space requirements for the proposed 14 pre-school children
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

aged 2 year 8 months -5 years (ECCE eligible) attending on a part-time or on a full day care basis or 17 children when attending the ECCE session.

- The clear floor space in the Preschool 3 room measured 37.5 square metres which meets the space requirements for the proposed 16 pre-school children aged 2 year 8 months -5 years (ECCE eligible) attending on a part-time or on a full day care basis or 20 children when attending the ECCE session.