

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service



Tusla I.D: TU2024FL007

Name of Service: Tigers Childcare

Address of Service: Powerstown Educate Together National School, D15 VR80

Email Address: info@tigerschildcare.com

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Therese Noonan

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed service type: Sessional service

Proposed Number of Children: The provider proposes to accommodate 22 preschool children aged 2 years 8 months to 6 years on a sessional care basis from 9:30am to 12:30pm Monday to Friday.

Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g. type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,) 22

Registered service: Sessional 22 children

Date of Inspection: 2 7 0 8 2 0 2 4

Inspection Undertaken by: E Hosford

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Child and Family Agency, Unit 4&5 Nexus Building, Block 6A, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15.

Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Sessional 22 children.
Date of Registration:	04 th September 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).

Description of Service	<p>Tigers Childcare propose to operate a sessional service to children aged between 2 years 8 months to 6 years of age from 09:30am to 12:30pm Monday to Friday and to accommodate a maximum of 22 pre-school children.</p> <p>During the inspection one care room Active Cubs was available for inspection as the staff present informed the inspector that the second care room was used only for use by school age children.</p>
Premises	<p>The provider proposes to operate the service from a single storey prefabricated building on the grounds of Powerstown Educate Together National School situated on the outskirts of Dublin city. There are two rooms with sanitary facilities available for the pre-school children. One of the rooms will be used by school aged children only in the afternoon. The premises also contains a kitchen and an office. A shared outdoor area is available for children to the front of the premises.</p>
Staffing	<p>The service proposes to initially employ 1 staff member to work directly with 11 children aged from 2 years 8 months to 6 years of age on a sessional basis.</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>

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	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.
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the two staff members who facilitated 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 requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named staff member will be available to deputise as required.

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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) The staff present during the inspection informed the inspector that the sessional care ratio of 1 adult to 11 children will be maintained during the operation of the service. Staff demonstrated an understanding of the minimum number of adults required to work with children.

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, or*

Requirement met:

(1) The requirement has been met

During the inspection one care room Active Cubs was available for inspection as the staff present informed the inspector that the second care room was only for use by school age children.

(a) The Active Cubs room was laid out with suitable play equipment and materials appropriate to the age of children proposed to attend. These included home corners, arts and crafts areas, sand play areas, construction equipment and books. The room had an assortment of puzzles and table-top toys. An outdoor area was

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available with a tarmacadam surface. The area was equipped with balance beams and covered sand tray. Staff informed the inspector that bikes and balls will be made available to the children.

(b) Areas were available within the room where children could rest or take a break from activities. These were situated in the corners of the rooms and consisted of soft matting, adult sofa and cushions.

(2)(a) The service had an outdoor area at the front of the premises which had a tarmacadam surface. The gates were secured with locks to prevent unauthorised access.

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 healthy eating policy is in operation within the service with parents providing a snack for their child during the session. A fridge is available in the care room for the storage of perishable food items and drinking water will be available throughout the session.

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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.

- Entrances were secured to prevent unauthorised access.
- Emergency doors were unobstructed.
- Play equipment and furniture was in good working order.
- The kitchen was inaccessible to children.
- Cleaning agents were stored out of reach of children.
- Cables and cords were appropriately secured.
- Hot water was thermostatically controlled and did not exceed 43° Celsius.
- The blind cords in the care room are fitted and secured with cord restrictors.

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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) The designated person in charge has a First Aid Responder certificate available.
- (2)(a) The first aid box is suitably equipped and safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position 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 partially met. (1) (a) A template is available to record fire drills that take place in the service. (b) A record is available of the number, type and maintenance of the smoke detection system of the service, which was last serviced on the 26 June 2024. (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the entrance hall and the care room of the premises. Clearly displayed fire assembly notices are available outside of the service to enable staff and children to identify the fire assembly point.
Requirement not met:	(1)(b) An up-to-date record was not available for the maintenance of the fire extinguishers in the service. The date of the last service was 12 May 2020.
Response from Provider:	(1)(b) The fire extinguishers have been serviced (August 2024)- certificate of servicing submitted.
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.

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. The service has adequate insurance to cover 44 children from the 1 st July 2024 to 27 th March 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) During the inspection it was observed that the walls, flooring, doors, and windows were suitably maintained, and the inspector did not identify any safety issues or concerns.

(c) The care room has windows which provide natural lighting. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights were fitted with shatter proof coverings.

Heating and ventilation are provided by an air-conditioning system throughout the service.

The temperature of the care room was recorded at 20.1°C on the day of inspection. The sanitary facilities are fitted with mechanical ventilation systems to extract stale air.

(d) The care room was in a clean condition on the day of inspection. A cleaning schedule is available in the care room and sanitary facilities to ensure regular cleaning of the service.

(e) All of the sanitary facilities are fitted with mechanical ventilation systems.

Three sanitary facilities consisting of three toilets and three wash hand basins are available in the service, one of which is for staff.

Warm water not exceeding 43°C, liquid soap and paper hand towels are provided in all sanitary facilities and care room. Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of paper hand towels.

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Requirement not met:	(b) The emergency exit door leading from the Active Cubs room is currently operated by an emergency fire handle which is easily accessible to children. Additional safety measures are required to ensure that children cannot exit the service unsupervised.
Response from Provider:	Additional safety measures have been added in the form of a higher button/magnetic release system. Photographic evidence submitted.
Summary Comment:	The requirement has been met.

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.

(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,*

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The registered provider ensured that adequate clear floor space of 75.17 square metres was available in the Active Cubs room for the work, play and movement of children attending the service. The second care room was not measured as the staff member present stated that the care room would not be used for early years children.</p> <p>(3) The registered provider ensured that a minimum space of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for the 22 proposed children attending the Active Cubs care room on a sessional basis.</p> <p>(4)(a) The minimum clear floor space is available for the duration of the sessional preschool service.</p>
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