

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2024KY001
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Wise Owl Shanakill
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Shanakill Family Resource Centre, Shanakill, Tralee, Co. Kerry.
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<b>Email Address:</b>	Wiseowl.tralee@gmail.com
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<b>Name of Proposed Registered Provider:</b>	A. Podruczna & A. Laskowska
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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 type="checkbox"/>	<b>Childminding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Proposed service type:</b>	Full Day Care
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<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	42
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<b>Outcome of the F06 Inspection</b> (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Full Day Care, 42 children, age 1-6, 8:45-17:45
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<b>Registered service:</b>	Full Day Care Service 42 children.
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	2	7	0	8	2	0	2	4
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<b>Inspection Undertaken by:</b>	N. Reidy
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<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector
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<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Áras an Phobail, Deans Lane, Tralee, Co. Kerry.
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<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>	Full Day Care Service 42 children.
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<b>Date of Registration:</b>	04 <sup>th</sup> September 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>	The proposed private early years service is proposing to register to provide sessional, part-time and full day care to children aged between 1 and 6 years. The proposed hours of operation will be 08:45 am to 5:45 pm Monday to Friday inclusive.
<b>Premises</b>	The proposed premise is located within the Shanakill Family resource centre. It consists of 2 playrooms, a kitchen, 2 sleep rooms and a designated office space. There is a designated spacious outdoor play area located to the rear of the building.
<b>Staffing</b>	There are 8 adults that include the registered providers proposed to be employed to work directly with the children.
<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 providers who were present on the day of 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) The service has a designated person, the registered providers who will deputize for each other 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.*
- (8) *Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—*
- (b) *a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and*
- (c) *a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered providers confirmed that 6 adults will work directly with the children each day, that is 3 adults in each of the proposed playrooms. The names of the adults were furnished to the inspector.

### 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.*
- (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*
- (b) *where no such space is provided, the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis to a suitable outdoor space.*
- (4) *Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.*

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(5) Where pre-school children attending a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre have access to an outdoor space other than such a space specified in paragraph (4), the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable.

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been partially met.</p> <p>(1)(a) There is a selection of low-level open shelving units provided in the 2 proposed playrooms that will be accessible to the children. Within the proposed pre-school room there is a wide range of play materials and equipment to support children's imaginary, sensory, creative, gross and fine motor and language development and a smaller amount of the said play materials and equipment provided in the proposed creche.</p> <p>(b) There are designated rest areas within the 2 proposed playrooms consisting of a variety of soft floor matting and cushions. The registered providers are considering the addition of low soft seating within the rest area in the proposed pre-school room. There are 2 designated sleep rooms equipped, sleep room 1 has 1 standard cot and sleep room 2 has 6 standard cots (of which 1 is an evacuation cot). Sleep room 1 is located in the creche and sleep room 2 is located outside the creche room. There are 10 low level beds provided for children aged over 2 years. Appropriate cot and bed linen is available. The registered providers are aware of floor beds that can be used for the older children.</p> <p>The inspector was issued with evidence in respect of the purchase of feeding chairs for the younger children in the crèche which are due for delivery week ending 26.08.'24.</p> <p>(2)(a) The proposed providers submitted this application after June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 to be sanctioned to operate as a full day care service.</p> <p>(3)(a) There is a designated secured outdoor play area located to the rear of the building that will be available and accessible to the proposed children attending the service.</p> <p>(b) Not applicable as the service will have its own designated outdoor play area.</p> <p>(4) Not applicable as this proposed service will not be a temporary service.</p> <p>(5) Not applicable as this proposed service will not be a temporary service.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>(1)(a)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There was an insufficient amount of play materials and equipment to support children imaginary, sensory, creative, gross and fine motor and language provided in the creche.</li> <li>2. Adult seating to facilitate feeding and nurturing young children was not in place in the care rooms.</li> </ol>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<p>(1)(a)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The room was equipped with more books, puzzles, jigsaws and a dress-up area.</li> <li>2. Adult seating was put in place.</li> </ol>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>Photographic evidence in respect of the above was also provided.</p> <p>The requirement has been met.</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.

- The service will provide a hot main meal supplied by an outside catering company delivered to the premise each week. The parents/guardians of the proposed children will provide food for the morning and afternoon snacks and the service will provide the evening meal.
- The registered providers confirmed that alternatives to the main meals supplied will be provided and a supply of crackers, cheese, fruit, beans and bread will be in stock in the allocated kitchen.
- The kitchen is located between the creche and pre-school room. There is a service hatch located between the pre-school room and the kitchen.
- There are 2 fridges in the kitchen for the storage of perishable food items
- Drinking water will be freely available. The inspector was informed that jugs of water will be obtained from the kitchen to re-fill the children's drink's bottles and cups in the room.
- The children's individual re-fillable drink's bottles will be stored within allocated containers on the low-level open shelving in the proposed playrooms.
- The inspector advised the proposed providers to link in with the local Environmental Health department for advice and support on food preparation.

### 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 partially met.

- The playroom doors are secured to prevent unauthorised access into the rooms and to prevent a child leaving unsupervised.
- The cleaning products are stored in a secure cabinet.
- The first aid boxes are stored out of the reach of the children, 1 within a high-level cupboard in the kitchen and the 2<sup>nd</sup> on a high-level cupboard in the proposed pre-school room.
- A high-level cupboard in the kitchen has been identified to store medication.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The spacious designated outdoor play area with the soft matting was enclosed with secure fencing and 1 secure gate.</li> <li>• There are 2 outdoor storage sheds in place to store the outdoor equipment.</li> <li>• The toys, fixtures and fittings in place on the day of the inspection were observed to be clean and dry.</li> <li>• The warm water provided is thermostatically controlled at the wash hand basins provided in the sanitary accommodation and the water temperature on the day of inspection was recorded at between the ranges of 34.6 and 41.2 degrees Celsius.</li> <li>• Liquid hand soap, disposable paper hand towels and pedal operated lidded bins are provided.</li> <li>• A lined, sealed, pedal operated lidded bin is provided at the nappy changing unit and will be provided at the second nappy changing unit located on the proposed premise.</li> <li>• Template cleaning schedules for the play materials and equipment and the premise.</li> <li>• The fire exit doors were observed to be unobstructed.</li> <li>• The clearly signed fire assembly point is located at the front of the building.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Requirement not met:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The kitchen was not rendered inaccessible to the proposed children attending the service.</li> <li>2. The fire exit door with the low-level push bar handle in the proposed pre-school room opened out to the side of the building to an unsecured gate out to the roadway.</li> <li>3. A sleep monitor and attached flex was not secured in the sleep room 2.</li> <li>4. The high-level hooks for on the double doors that are proposed to be used to keep the doors open whilst the children play outdoors were not secured.</li> <li>5. A gate in the proposed outdoor play area was not secured to prevent a child gaining unsupervised access out to the roadway and prevent unauthorized persons into the area.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Response from Provider:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The kitchen door was fixed, and the kitchen is no longer accessible to children.</li> <li>2. The unsecured gate was fixed, a lock is now in place on it, the gate is secured.</li> <li>3. The flex is secured; the monitor was placed on the shelf.</li> <li>4. The hooks were placed on the outside doors.</li> <li>5. A lock was placed on the gate, it is secured.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Summary Comment:</b></p>	<p>In addition to the statements submitted, photographic and video evidence was provided in respect of the above. The requirement has been met.</p>

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### 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) The current certifications were furnished to the inspector to evidence that 2 proposed staff members had completed First Aid Responder (FAR) training that was in date. There were 2 adults who had completed first aid for children the certifications were on file.

(2)(a) There was a suitably equipped first aid box provided for each of the 2 proposed playrooms, 1 stored in a high-level cupboard in the kitchen and the second box stored in a high-level cupboard in the pre-school room.

(b) The suitably equipped first aid boxes will be available in the service.

### 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 provider has a template for recording the monthly fire drills.

(b) A record of the number and type of the firefighting equipment is available.

The fire extinguishers were last serviced on 19.08.'24 and the smoke alarms system on 20/08/'23.

(4) A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in each of the rooms near the entrance doors in each of the rooms.

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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:

The requirement has been met.  
The registration team received a copy of adequate insurance from **12/08/2024 to 27/03/2025**

### 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:

The requirement has been partially met.

(a) From a visual inspection the building appears to be of sound and stable structure.

(b) The premise was safe and secure on the day of the inspection.

(c) Natural lighting was provided via high level openable windows in the care rooms and in most of the sanitary accommodation and this was supplemented with artificial enclosed light fittings in some of the areas.

The temperature of the playrooms was recorded at between 19.3 and 21.3 degrees Celsius, and the temperature of the sanitary accommodation was recorded at 20 and 21 degrees Celsius. The oil heating was not switched on for the inspection, the registered providers informed the inspector that it was in working order.

The means of heating the sanitary accommodation was via wall mounted temperature-controlled radiators. On discussion with the proposed registered providers, they will monitor the air temperatures and if required explore options to provide an additional heat source for the sanitary accommodation.

There are thermostatically controlled wall mounted radiators in the playroom and entrance area.

The playroom and sanitary was ventilated by means of natural ventilation from the open-able windows.

(d) From observation on the day of the inspection the play equipment and furniture appeared to be clean and in a good condition.

(e) There are 2 toilets and 4 wash hand basins allocated for children’s use and 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin available for the adult’s use. There is a designated nappy changing unity with a wash hand basin located in the sanitary accommodation serving the creche and a second unit with a wash hand basin in the sanitary accommodation outside the creche.

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<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>(c)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The lighting in the 2 toilet cubicles in the sanitary accommodation serving the proposed creche was not in working order.</li> <li>2. The lighting in place was inadequate in the area where the 2 wash hand basins were located in the sanitary accommodation serving the proposed creche.</li> </ol> <p>(d)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The base and surrounds of the fire exit doors located in the proposed sleep room 1 and in the pre-school room were unclean.</li> <li>4. There were 7 doors within the proposed premises that were not maintained in a clean condition.</li> <li>5. There were nettles protruding through the fencing into the proposed outdoor play area.</li> <li>6. The door of 1 toilet cubicle was catching on the low-level sink in the sanitary accommodation serving the proposed pre-school room.</li> </ol>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<p>(c)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The bulbs were changed; the lighting is working.</li> <li>2. The bulbs were changed for stronger ones.</li> </ol> <p>(d)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The fire exit doors were thoroughly cleaned.</li> <li>4. The doors were painted.</li> <li>5. The nettles were removed.</li> <li>6. The door was sanded and opens easily.</li> </ol>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>Photographic evidence was submitted in addition to the statements provided. The requirement has been met.</p>

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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.*
- (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:

- (1) Adequate floor space is available in the proposed playrooms for the work, play and movement of the children in the service.
- (2) The registered provider ensured that the minimum clear floor space is adhered to for the proposed number of 42 pre-school children in the proposed rooms.
- (3) & (4) The space requirement for children attending on a sessional EECE scheme basis is met. The proposed registered providers informed the inspector they propose to cater for 22 pre-school children on a sessional basis in the proposed pre-school room for which the clear floor space required is provided.
- (5) Not applicable as this is not a temporary service.