

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service



Tusla I.D: TU2024LK001

Name of Service: Coolmine Mid-West Limerick Residential Childcare Service

Address of Service: Ashbourne Avenue, South Circular Road, Limerick V94 A5NA

Email Address: Becci.hill@coolminetc.ie

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Anita Harris

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

Proposed service type: Full Day Care

Proposed Number of Children: 8

Outcome of the F06 Inspection:

- Full day
- Proposes number of preschool children 8
- Age profile 0 to 6 years
- Hours of operation 08 45 to 16 00 hrs

Registered service: Registered Full Day Care Service for 8 Children

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

Inspection Undertaken by: E Browne

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla, Early Years Inspectorate, Estuary House, Henry St Limerick

Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status: Registered Full Day Care Service for 8 Children

Date of Registration: 5th June 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).

Description of Service	Coolmine Midwest Limerick Residential Childcare services proposes to provide full day care to preschool children from 0845 am to 16 00 pm each day Monday to Friday. The proposed age profile will be from birth to 6 years of age.
Premises	The childcare service will operate from the residential childcare premises located in an old convent building. The children will have access to one main playroom on the ground floor, a designated sleep room, nappy changing and bathroom facilities for the children and a large enclosed outdoor green area to the rear of the building.
Staffing	There will be three staff on site each day and each hold an appropriate childcare qualification. The registered provider will not be working in the service.
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 the person in charge who were present on the day of 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:

(1)(a) There will be a designated person in charge and a named person who will be able 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.

Requirement met:

(1) There will be three staff working in the service caring for 8 preschool children which is in compliance with the recommended adult/child ratios. Additional staff will be available to assist if required.

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:

(1)(a) There is one playroom partitioned into two areas to accommodate the proposed age profile of preschool children, babies and toddlers. Both areas are well equipped with play materials and equipment with areas of interest developed. These areas will be further developed, and equipment added as the children's interest and strengths emerge. The play equipment is stored at a low level, readily accessible to children.
Facilities for outdoor play are available on site to the rear of the service. This is a large grass area with a timber shelter, playhouse, a selection of sensorial play materials,

	<p>fixed climbing board and beam. Balancing bikes and tricycles are available to use on the tarmac area.</p> <p>(b) The service has a designated sleep room with 4 traditional style cots and cots beds for the older children who may require a sleep. Each child will have their own supply of bed linen. A rest area in the playroom consisting of a small couch, cushions and floor mats is available for children to use if they are tired or need some quiet time away from the general play area.</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:

A documented and detailed healthy eating policy and menu plan is available for the service. The parents will be providing healthy and nutritious snacks and drinks for the children for their morning and afternoon snacks.

Meals will be prepared on site by the parents and the children will have their main meals with the parent in the residential area of the service. Staff will be available at all times to assist and advice on healthy food/meals/drinks.

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 entrance door was locked and secure preventing unauthorised access and preventing a child leaving the service.
- The emergency exit doors were unobstructed.
- Drinking water was readily available to the children.
- Safe storage was provided for the children’s belongings.
- Storage for cleaning materials and equipment was provided in a secure area out of reach of the children.
- The registered provider was advised that water temperatures must be maintained at or below 43°C.
- The cords from blinds are made safe with the use of tension devices.
- There were no trailing flexes and there was no television or stereo in the service.
- All toys and play equipment were safe for the age of children using them.

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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:

- (1) The person in charge has updated training in first aid for children (FAR) and the certificates is valid until 23/03/2025.
- (2)(a) There is a suitably equipped first aid box available on the premises.
- (b) The first aid box is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.

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:

- (1)(a) A record in writing will be kept of the fire drills practiced monthly and documentation will be available to indicate this.
- (b) The number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment indicated that they were last serviced in October 2023. The smoke alarms in the premises were last serviced in September 2023.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire is displayed in a conspicuous position in the playroom.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The insurance certificate for the service is available and had an expiry date of 31/03/2025.

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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:

- (a) On visual assessment the building appeared of a sound and stable structure. The premises was well maintained and in a good state of repair.
- (b) The entrance door was kept locked at all times.
- (c) The rooms had good levels of natural light via the windows. Room temperatures were maintained between 18 - 22°C. Ventilation was provided through openable windows in the rooms.
- (d) The premises was clean and all fixtures and fittings were in good repair.
- (e) The sanitary accommodation included nappy changing facilities, 1 toilets and 1 wash hand basin, plus 2 wash hand basin in the playroom, designated for use by children. Separate sanitary facilities for adults were available which included 1 toilet and 1 wash hand basin.

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.

Requirement met:

- (1) The space available indoors is sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed number of children to attend.
- The measurements of the room were recorded as follows:
- Playroom: partitioned into two areas, area for the babies/wobblers and an area for the older children 1 to 6 years of age.
- Space available = 16 sq. meters.
Allows a maximum of 5 toddlers (1-6 years) part time/full time.
- Space available = 13 sq. meters.
Allows a maximum of 3 babies/wobblers (0 – 12mts) part- time/full time.