

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2024LM001
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Eivers Lane Childcare CLG Eslin Community Centre
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Eslin Bridge, Tulcon, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim. M41 VY57
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<b>Email Address:</b>	info@eiverslane.ie
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<b>Name of Proposed Registered Provider:</b>	Padraic McWeeney
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<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>	Sessional, Part Time and Full day care
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<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	22
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<b>Outcome of the F06 Inspection</b> (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Approved 22 children FDC, PT and Sessional preschool service.
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<b>Registered service:</b>	Registered Full Day Care Service for 22 Children
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	2	8	0	2	2	0	2	4
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<b>Inspection Undertaken by:</b>	L Costello
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<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector
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<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, TUSLA Child & Family Agency, Markievicz House, Barrack St, Sligo, F91 XC84
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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>	Registered Full Day Care Service for 22 Children
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<b>Date of Registration:</b>	04 <sup>th</sup> April 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 preschool consists of a large care room situated in a community centre in the rural village of Eslin Bridge near Mohill Co-Leitrim. The service has its own enclosed play area. The service will operate from 08:30 until 17:30 for 50 weeks of the year.
<b>Premises</b>	The premises consist of a care room in a community centre. The preschool has exclusive use of this centre during operational times. There is car park to the front which is adequate for drop of and collection. Entry point is through the outdoor area at the back of the community centre.
<b>Staffing</b>	It is proposed that there will be three staff working in the service throughout the day. This includes the person in charge. The registered provider will not be working 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(s) wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and/or 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:

This requirement has been met:

(1)(a). There will be a manager working in the service at all times, a person in charge and a person who is 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.

(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:

This requirement has been met:

(1). It is proposed that there will be three staff working in the service with 22 children proposed to be registered for the sessional service. Further staff will be recruited if required depending on the numbers of children remaining for full day care provision.

The registered provider confirmed that they are aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 2 of Schedule 6 and will ensure that an adequate number of adults will at all times work directly with the number of children attending the 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.
- (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:**

This requirement has been met.

(1) (a).

Adequate space was provided to the preschool children to play indoors and outdoors. The care room indoors was set up into various interest areas to facilitate children to move around freely and direct their own sense of play. Interest areas included home corners, construction areas, sensory play all areas well resourced. Open low level shelving stocked various age appropriate resources including table top activities, puzzles, jigsaws and arts and crafts.

(1) (b).

The service has provided adequate rest area in the form of a library, soft matting and cushions to enable a child to rest or opt out of an activity. Low level floor beds were also provided for the preschool child who required rest during the full day care hours.

(2) (a).

The service had its own enclosed play area. This area was secure with a high metal fencing preventing unauthorised access or unsupervised exit from the service. This area consisted of various resources including kitchens, climbing frames, slides, bikes and trikes, footballs and tractors. A risk assessment will be completed prior to

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	<p>outdoor play as this centre may also be used by the community. The risk assessment includes a safety check to ensure the area is free from hazards for the preschool child.</p> <p>(3) (a).</p> <p>Arrangements are in place for the children to play outdoors daily.</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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>In the sessional service the children will bring in their own snacks which are stored in the service fridge in the main care room. Portable drinking water is available throughout the day.</p> <p>For those children availing of the full day care service. Meals are brought out from the sister service (5km) away in a hot box. This has been approved by the environmental health officer. There is a menu plan in place with a provision for dinner at 13.00, snack at 14.30 and evening meal at 16.00. The service operates a healthy eating policy which is communicated to families on enrolment to the service. Details of the healthy eating policy and menu plan are displayed on the notice board in the preschool service.</p>
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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main entrance to the service was secure on arrival on the day of inspection.</li> <li>• The perimeter of the outdoor area consists of high level fencing which appeared safe and secure on the day.</li> <li>• Cleaning products are stored in a locked storeroom out of reach of the preschool child.</li> <li>• Materials and resources in the care room were clean and free of hazards.</li> <li>• The resources in the outdoor area were free from hazards.</li> <li>• There is a fridge in the main care room for the storage of snacks.</li> <li>• The Kitchen is in accessible to the preschool children.</li> <li>• Risk assessments are in place prior to outdoor play.</li> <li>• Cleaning schedules are in place in the service and duties and responsibilities are clearly outlined.</li> <li>• The service has a medication policy and medication will be stored out of reach of the preschool child.</li> </ul>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A trip hazard identified at the entrance to the outdoor area requires to be rectified.</li> <li>2. A piece of fencing to block access to the boiler is required to prevent a risk of burns to the preschool child.</li> </ol>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Barriers in place to prevent a trip or fall. Photographic evidence submitted.</li> <li>2. Barriers in place to block access to the boiler. Photographic evidence submitted.</li> </ol>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>These corrective actions submitted by the person acting on behalf of the registered provider has been reviewed and accepted by the inspectorate. This requirement has now 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)

A staff member has certification in First Aid responder valid until 16.02.2026 and will be available to the preschool child at all times.

(2) (a)(b).

There was a suitable equipped first aid box stocked for 50 people available and stored safely in the preschool room.

### 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) (a). Provisions have been made for the recording s of the monthly fire drills.

(1) (b). The type, number and maintenance of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the building was available and displayed on the notice board. The most recent maintenance test as of 23.06.2023.

(4). A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire specific to the service was available. There was a clearly identified fire assembly point located to the side of the building.

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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 as adequate insurance has been provided for the number of children proposed to attend the 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:

This requirement has been met:

- (a) On a visual inspection of the building the premises appears of a sound and stable structure, with no visible evidence of damage.
- (b). The entrance was locked on arrival to the service, all access gates are bolted with key locks in place. A high-level metal fencing secures the perimeter of the service.
- (c). The main care room consists of a mix of artificial and natural lighting. 6 fluorescent lights as well as 4 windows provide adequate light to the room. The sanitary area is equipped with round encased lighting with added light from the two windows in each sanitary area. The hallway has one full glass door providing natural light with an addition of 2 encased round florescent lights providing adequate lighting throughout.
- Oil central heating provides adequate heating throughout. 4 large radiators in the care room provides sufficient heat to the large care room.
- A mechanical ventilation system in the sanitary area alongside openable windows provide adequate ventilation in the sanitary area.
- (d) The service was appropriately cleaned on the day of the inspection and the person in charge informed the inspector of the cleaning schedules that will be in place to ensure the upkeep of the service. All cleaning products were stored out of reach of the preschool child. Pest control had serviced the premises on the 19.02.2024

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(e) Two standard toilets were available for the preschool child and three hand washing sinks, located down the hallway from the main care room. It is envisaged that all children in attendance will be toilet trained, however adequate nappy changing facilities were available o the day. Bathrooms were equipped with liquid soap, warm water, paper towels and foot operated waste bins for adequate hand hygiene.

The service uses a public water supply and sewage system.

### 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.*
- (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).*

#### Requirement met:

- (1) Adequate floor space is provided for the free movement of children to work and play.
- (2) It is proposed that a maximum number of 22 children will attend on a sessional basis and a maximum number of 16 will attend on a full day care basis.
- (4) The main care room measures 82.183m<sup>2</sup> which is sufficient for the proposed 22 children attending a preschool service and the 16 children remaining for the full day care service.