

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2024MN001

Name of Service: Laurelhill Community Childcare

Address of Service: Laurel Hill Castleblaney Co. Monaghan A75PK46

Email Address: laurelhillchildcare@gmail.com

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Ms. Veronica Trehy

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

Proposed service type: Full Day Care

Proposed Number of Children: 22

Outcome of the F06 Inspection
(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,) Full Day Care service for maximum 22 children aged 2 - 6 years. Service will operate from 8.00am – 5.30pm.

Registered service: Registered Full Day Care service 22 children.

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

Inspection Undertaken by: S. Skinnader

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: No.18 The Grange Plantation Walk Monaghan

Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status: Registered Full Day Care service 22 children.

Date of Registration: 28th August 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	It is proposed that Laurelhill Community Childcare will be a community run full day care service providing sessional, part-time and full day care childcare. It proposes to cater for a maximum of 22 pre-school children aged between 2 - 6 years of age. The service will operate from 8.00am - 5.30pm and will participate in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme each weekday Monday – Friday.
Premises	This service will operate from a purpose-built, single-story building on the grounds of the local primary school in the town of Castleblaney Co. Monaghan. There is 1 preschool room and a kitchenette area, 1 staff toilet with nappy changing facilities and children’s sanitary accommodation. There is an enclosed outdoor area to the front of the premises. There is parking available outside the premises for drop offs and pickups.
Staffing	It is proposed there will be 2 staff members in the room with the 22 children. A relief panel will also be available.
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 co-operation of the proposed registered provider and 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:

The requirement has been met. The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy.

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 requirement has been met. The registered provider states that 2 staff members will be working directly with the 22 pre-school children that will attend the preschool room.

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:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

(1)(a) Adequate and suitable facilities have been provided for children to play indoors during the day. A range of toys, equipment and well-resourced interest areas are available in the care room.

(b) Adequate and suitable facilities are provided for the children to rest on if required. There is a cosy corner with a long cushions and small plastic covered cushions. Two stackable day beds are also available should a child require to lie down.

(2)(b) An outdoor area which is safe, secure and suitable has been provided which is fenced, walled and gated.

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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 children will bring in lunches for their morning snack and these will be stored in the new fridge in the room.
Those attending on a full day care basis will have breakfast, dinner and afternoon snacks which will be cooked or prepared by the kitchen staff in the adjoining primary school. The children will have access to potable drinking water, milk and their own drinks. The person in charge also stated food will be available for any child that may forget their snack.

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:

At the time of the inspection, there were no concerns observed that would impact the safety of children for example all storage areas and the kitchenette have been made inaccessible to the pre-school children. The external doors are appropriately secured. All cleaning agents and medications will be stored out of the reach of children in the kitchenette area.

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 registered provider has ensured there is an adult with up to date First Aid Responder (FAR) training on the premises. Two FAR certificates were available for inspection.
(2)(a) An adequately stocked first aid box is provided in the service.
(b) The first aid box is available to the pre-school children at all times.

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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 met.

(1)(a) There is a log in place to record any fire drills that will take place.

(b) There is a written record of the number type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises dated 25/6/ 2024.

(4) There is a notice displayed of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire.

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.

Adequate insurance is in place for the preschool children from the 29/8/24 to the 27/3/25.

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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 met.

(a) The service is operating from a premises which appears to be structurally sound.
(b) The service is safe and secure with a locked entrance. The outdoor areas are fenced and secured.

(c) Lighting is provided by means of natural light and supplemented with 8 covered fluorescent lights in the care room and 1 each in the sanitary accommodations and in the kitchenette area.

The room temperature in the care room is adequate and comfortable. Heating is by means of 3 radiators, which have protective cages in place.

Ventilation: The care room and sanitary accommodation are ventilated by means of either openable windows or mechanical ventilation.

(d) The premises, toys and equipment are in a clean condition and in good repair. Cleaning schedules are available.

(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary accommodation is provided i.e. 1 toilet and hand basin in the sanitary accommodation off the care room for the staff, and 2 toilets each with a hand basin for the children. There are 2 additional hand basins in the care room. The sanitary area has a continuous supply of thermostatically controlled running water, a supply of liquid soap and a wall mounted paper towel dispenser. A wall mounted nappy changing unit with nappy changing mat is also available in the staff toilet should it be required.

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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:

(1) and (2) The requirement has been met.
There is a floor space of 62m² which is adequate to accommodate 22 pre-school children aged 2-6 years on a full day care basis.