

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

**Tusla I.D:** TU2024MO002

**Name of Service:** Small World Childcare

**Address of Service:** St. Brendan's National School,  
Myona, Kilmeena,  
Westport, Co Mayo.

**Email Address:** smallworldmyna@outlook.ie

**Name of Proposed Registered Provider:** Ellen Moore.

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

**Proposed service type:** Proposal to provide a part time and sessional care service to children aged from 2 to 6 years of age.

**Proposed Number of Children:** 22

**Outcome of the F06 Inspection**  
(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,) Part-time and sessional care service catering for 22 children aged from 2 – 6 years, operating between 8.30am and 1.30pm

**Registered service:** Registered Part-time and sessional care service catering for 22 children.

**Date of Inspection:** 1 2 0 8 2 0 2 4

**Inspection Undertaken by:** Aileen Bradshaw

**Title:** Early years inspector

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<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Brunel Building, Saint John's Road West, Heuston South Quarter, Dublin 8. D08 X01F
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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 Part-time and sessional care service catering for 22 children.
<b>Date of Registration:</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> August 2024

<b>Authority to Inspect</b>
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 childcare service will provide part-time and sessional care to children aged between 2 - 6 years. The service will operate from 8.30am to 1.30 pm Monday to Friday. The service proposes to provide the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme.
<b>Premises</b>	The proposed part-time and sessional service will operate from a designated classroom in St. Brendan's National School in the village of Myona, Kileemna, Westport. The children's sanitary area is located off the proposed room. The adult sanitary facilities are based in the primary school.  The children's enclosed outdoor area is accessed directly from the room.

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<b>Staffing</b>	<p>The proposed registered provider employs one staff member. They will both work directly with the children. Both persons will hold a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications.</p>
<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>	<p>The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider who was present on the day of the inspection.</p>

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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

(1)(a) The proposed registered provider is the designated person in charge and a named staff member is available to deputise as required.

#### 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider is proposing that 2 adults will work directly with 22 children attending on a sessional care basis reducing to 16 children with 2 adults caring for them outside of the ECCE session.

Room	Number of Adults	Number of Children
Classroom	2	16 part-time care or 22 sessional care

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,*

**Requirement met:**

(1)(a) The requirement has been met.

The room is bright with clear floor space available to enable children to move freely around the room. Areas of interest are clearly defined with solid wooden structures creating a play shop area, a play workshop area and a play home area with supporting materials and equipment to complement the various play opportunities. There is a large doll house with accessories including doll furniture and fittings to give children the opportunity for small-world play. The low shelving is equipped with toys for imaginative play including cars, trucks, building blocks, farm toys, and dress-up clothes. The tabletop activities include jigsaws, puzzles, and sorting activities. There is a small rest area with a child-size chair, cosy cushions and books. There are sufficient

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tables and chairs to accommodate children to sit and eat their snacks or work independently with tabletop materials.

(1)(b) The requirement has been met.

The proposed service has two low beds for children in addition to a cosy area where children can have a break from activities if needed. Suitable window blinds are available in the room to darken the space if children required a sleep.

The proposed service does not provide an overnight pre-school service.

(2)(a) The requirement has been met

There is an outdoor area to the side of the proposed service. This outdoor area is enclosed by fencing. The surface consists of an artificial surface and mulch. There is a large, enclosed sand pit, and a water table accessible for the children.

(3)(a) The requirement has been met.

A suitable, safe, and secure outdoor space to which the children attending the service will have access daily is provided on the premises.

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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.

A healthy eating policy is in operation within the proposed service. Parents will supply the children’s snack and food during the morning. Examples of healthy snacks are included in the healthy eating policy which will be given to the parents during their child’s enrolment.

There is a fridge in the room to store perishable food.

The proposed register provider has stated that they will provide additional snacks, fresh fruit and water throughout the day should a child become hungry.

### 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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met.

- The entrance door which leads to the classroom where the service is operated is appropriately secured to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service. There is also a second half door in the hallway which children cannot open.
- The window openings of the service are positioned at high levels.
- The play materials and equipment in the service are stored on stable-based low-level shelving units and secure high-level shelving units. The play materials and equipment are observed to be safe and suitable for the developmental age of the proposed children.

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- The tables and chairs in the room that are used for tabletop activities and mealtimes are the appropriate height for the age of children accommodated in the room.
- The emergency exit doors of the service are unobstructed.
- The outdoor area is secured with a fence and a secure exit gate therefore preventing a child from exiting the area and preventing unauthorised access to the service. The surface consists of an artificial covering and mulch. The sandpit is fenced in and covered to prevent animals from entering the area.
- All storage of waste both indoors and outdoors is inaccessible to the children at the side of the school building.
- A system is available for the safe storage of cleaning agents and equipment in high presses or low locked presses.

### 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 proposed registered provider is trained as a first aid responder (FAR) and will be at all times immediately available to children attending the service.

(2)(a)(b)

The first aid box is suitably equipped and safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position in the classroom.

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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)(b) A template is available to record fire drills which will take place in the service. A copy of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment of the service is available in the service. The smoke alarms were serviced in March 2024 and the firefighting equipment was serviced in June 2024.

(4)A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the classroom. There are illuminated fire exit signs on all the exit doors of the building. A fire assembly sign is evident in the grounds of the school.

### 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 provided a copy of insurance to demonstrate that insurance is in place for 22 children at any one time from 28 August 2024 to 27 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 met.

During the inspection, the following is noted:

(a) The walls, flooring, doors, and windows are suitably maintained, and inspectors did not identify any safety issues or concerns.

(b) The entrance door to the service is adequately secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service.

(c) The windows in the room provide natural lighting which can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with shatterproof coverings.

The room is heated by the main heating system in the school building.

(d) The room is in a clean condition on the day of inspection. A cleaning schedule is available to ensure a record is maintained of the regular cleaning of the service.

(e) The sanitary facilities for the children are adjacent to the room. There are two toilets and two wash-hand basins in this area. Warm water is thermostatically controlled not to heat the water above 43°C. Liquid soap and paper hand towels are provided. Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of paper hand towels. Adults have the use of the school staff's sanitary facilities.

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) 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:**

The requirement has been met.

(1) The proposed registered provider has allowed for adequate clear floor space to be available to allow children free movement to work and play.

(3)

Room	ECCE Room
Clear floor space	54.78 sqm
Age Range	2-6 years
Proposed number of children	16 (part-time) or 22 (sessional)

The above table illustrates that the minimum clear floor space is available for children based on their age range and attending the service on a part-time or a sessional basis.