

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

**Tusla I.D:** TU2024S0001

**Name of Service:** Spraioi Community Childcare Keash Preschool

**Address of Service:** Eastern Harps GAA Club, Knockoconor, Keash, Ballymote, Sligo

**Email Address:** spraoi@live.ie

**Name of Proposed Registered Provider:** Margaret Cryan

<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input 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:** Sessional service

**Proposed Number of Children:** 11 preschool children

**Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)** Sessional service for 11 preschool children aged from 2 -6 years. The service operating times will be between 09.15am and 12:15

**Registered service:** Sessional service for 11 preschool children.

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

**Inspection Undertaken by:** L Costello and K. Folan

**Title:** Early Years Inspectors

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Early Years Inspectorate, TUSLA Child & Family Agency, Markievicz House, Barrack St, Sligo, F91 XC84

**Rationale for Inspection**

**Proposed New Service**

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

**Registration Status:** Sessional service for 11 preschool children

**Date of Registration:** 19<sup>th</sup> December 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 service is a sessional service catering for preschool children aged two to six years. It is proposed that the service will operate from 09.15am to 12:15.
<b>Premises</b>	The proposed service is situated on the first floor of the Eastern Harps GAA club. The service consists of one large open care room. Utilities include a Kitchen and children and adult sanitary facilities. For outdoor play, the service has sole use of the community owned football pitch during the service operating times.
<b>Staffing</b>	It is proposed that two members of staff will be employed in the service. The person in charge and a childcare educator will work directly with the preschool 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 Inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed person in charge 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1 (a))

There is a person in charge and a named person 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:**

This requirement has been met:

- (1) The registered provider is aware of the requirement to ensure that there is an adequate number of adults working directly with the preschool children. The proposed roster has two adults working directly with the proposed 11 preschool children.

**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.

**Requirement met:**

This requirement has been met:

- (1) (a)  
 Adequate space was provided for children to play indoors and outdoors. The service is offering a play-based programme with a well-resourced playroom divided into different interest areas. These interest areas include a home corner resourced with a kitchen, dining table and real-life crockery. A construction area with trucks, diggers and a road track mat. Sensory play is facilitated with water and sand tables. An arts and crafts area will provide opportunities for creativity. Dress up areas, dolls and toys will provide opportunities for role play. A well-resourced library aims to support language development. Open low level accessible shelving stocked with tabletop activities, puzzles and jigsaws aim to support coordination and fine motor skill development.

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	<p>A community football pitch provides the service outdoor area where there is opportunity for gross motor skill development with ride on toys, footballs and parachute.</p> <p>(b) A cosy corner equipped with soft matting and cushions will provide a rest area for preschool children wanting to rest or relax.</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:

This requirement has been met.

The preschool children will bring their own snacks to the school in line with the service healthy eating policy. All perishable items will be stored in the service fridge. Portable water is available in the service.

### 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 service demonstrated the following safety measures:

- The main entrance is secure, and the service has a policy where parents/guardians will bring their children to the main entrance on the first floor.
- Internal doors are appropriately secure to prevent children accessing an unsafe area.
- In the stairwell, suitable handrails have been provided. The staircase is adequately lit.
- Windows have been risk assessed and security mechanisms are in place.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All toys and resources are in good condition and free from pinch or crush points.</li> <li>Storage facilities are inaccessible to the preschool child.</li> <li>Bathrooms are stocked with liquid soap and paper towels for effective hand hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>The service requires to demonstrate the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A risk assessment is required as to the operation of the community outdoor space for the preschool children.</li> <li>Foot operated pedal bins are required for the disposal of waste in the preschool.</li> <li>All loose chords from TVs require to be secure to the wall.</li> </ol>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<p>In a written response the registered provider stated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A risk assessment is now in place to operate the outdoor area. A template has been submitted to the inspectorate.</li> <li>Foot operated pedal bins have been purchased. Photographic evidence submitted to the inspectorate.</li> <li>Chords have been secure. Photographic evidence has been submitted to the inspector.</li> </ol>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>The registered provider has supplied evidence of the actions taken to meet the registration requirement. This requirement has now been met.</p>

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### Part VI - Safety

<b>Regulation 25 – First Aid</b>	
<p>(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.</p> <p>(2) A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children—</p> <p>(a) is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and</p> <p>(b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times</p>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) The person in charge has certification in First aid responder valid up until the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2025.</p> <p>(2) (a)</p> <p>There was a suitably equipped first aid box available in the classroom.</p>
<b>Part VI - Safety</b>	
<b>Regulation 26 – Fire Safety Measures</b>	
<p>(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of—</p> <p>(a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and</p> <p>(b) the number, type and maintenance record of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.</p> <p>(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.</p>	
<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>(1) (a) The registered provider proposes that monthly fire evacuation drills take place in line with the service fire policy.</p> <p>(1) (b) There was a record of the maintenance and service history of the fire fighting equipment dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2024.</p>
<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>This requirement has not been met:</p> <p>(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was not available.</p>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	The registered provider submitted evidence of the procedures to follow in the event of a fire within the service.
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	The evidence submitted to the inspectorate has been reviewed and the requirement has now been met.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

Evidence of insurance was available with a valid insurance certificate up until the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 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:

This requirement has partially been met:

- (a)* On a visual inspection the service appeared to be of a sound and stable structure. The person in charge voiced no concerns regarding the structure of the building.
- (b)* The indoor area has a safety mechanism in place to control who enters and leaves the service.
- (c)* Adequate lighting is available in the service with the provision of a mix of natural and artificial lighting. Large openable windows provide adequate light and ventilation while seven florescent lights provide additional lighting if required.
- (d)* The service is cleaned and well maintained. It is envisaged that staff members will remain on site after the service finishes to ensure the cleaning of the premises.
- (e)* Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities are available in the service. A toilet and wash hand basin adjacent to the care room was available for the preschool children.

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<b>Requirement not met:</b>	<p>This requirement was not met:</p> <p>(d)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of the service heating system maintenance is required to demonstrate the safety of the system.</li> <li>The service requires to demonstrate evidence of appropriate pest control system.</li> </ul>
<b>Response from Provider:</b>	<p>The registered provider has submitted evidence that a air to water heating system is in operation in the service and this system is checked regularly.</p> <p>The service submitted evidence of effective pest control in the service with an installation date of the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2024.</p>
<b>Summary Comment:</b>	<p>The inspectorate has reviewed the evidence submitted and this requirement as now been met.</p>

### 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) *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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met:</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>Adequate floor space is provided in the classroom for the free movement of children to work rest and play.</p> <p>(3)</p> <p>It is proposed that a maximum of 11 children will attend the service on a sessional basis. The service demonstrated adequate free floor space for this number of children. The care room measured 155.7m<sup>2</sup>.</p>
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