

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2024WW001

Name of Service R.O.S. Early Years Ltd

Address of Service: 1 Emporium, Lower Tinahask, Arklow, Co. Wicklow
Y14 AD60

Email Address: rosearlyyearsLtd@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Amanda Spiteri

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

Proposed change: Increase in number of children from 41 to 66 children with the opening of a new room. To increase staff numbers from 10 to 12.

Proposed Number of Children: 66

Recommended Change Following Inspection: To allow for 62 children to attend the service

Registered change: Change in Number of Children from 41 to 62 children
Change in Number of Staff from 10 to 12 staff

Date of Inspection: 0 6 0 3 2 0 2 5

Inspection undertaken by: H. Bourke

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla Child and Family Agency
First Floor Trinity Building, IDA Business Park, Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

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Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 62 Children
Date of Registration	11 th April 2025

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	This private childcare facility provides full day care for children aged one year to six years of age. The childcare service operates the urban setting of Arklow Co. Wicklow. There is no longer a school aged service operating from this facility.
Premises	The service consists of a two storey, purpose-built premises which accommodates the childcare service. There are currently two care rooms on the ground floor, one of which is attached to a dedicated sleep room. There is a third care room on the first floor; a staff room, office, washroom and a kitchen are also provided. There is small enclosed outdoor space to the side of premises.
Staffing	There are currently eleven adults employed in the childcare service. Additional staff will be recruited when the increased numbers have been approved.
Methodology	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 the following themes: Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises.

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	The findings on inspection are 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 registering the change in circumstance. 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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge, manager, staff and children 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:	The requirement has been met. (1)(a) The registered provider has ensured that there will be a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise if required.
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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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

The service can currently accommodate 41 children on a sessional, part time and full-time basis with an adequate number of adults working directly with the children during their day. There are currently eleven staff members employed in 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.*

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

The service currently comprises of three care rooms. These rooms are named as follows, downstairs there is the Creche room and Toddler room 1 and upstairs there is Toddler room 2. These rooms are bright and spacious and well laid out to cater for the age range of children who are attending in each room.

(b)

There is a cot room with six standard cots at present in the Creche room. Storable low-level beds have been provided for children over two years of age and suitable rest areas are provided in each care room.

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Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

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.

Parents provide all snacks for their child attending on a sessional, parttime and fulltime basis. Two hot meals are provided by the manager and are in line with the Healthy Eating policy of the service. Refrigerated storage facilities are available for perishable snacks. An outside catering company provide the meals to the service. The staff heat lunches required for children availing of parttime and full day care services. Drinking water and fresh milk are available for children. If a child requires additional food the onsite kitchen can provide a healthy snack as needed.

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 requirement has been met.

- The manager stated the front door is locked at all times, ensuring children cannot leave the service unsupervised and unauthorised access to the service cannot occur.
- The emergency exit doors were unobstructed.
- Storage is available for children’s belongings.
- Cleaning materials and equipment are locked in a cupboard in the service.
- The kitchen is inaccessible to children.
- A fridge is available in the kitchen for the storage of food.
- A cleaning schedule for toys and equipment was available.
- The sanitary accommodations were well stocked with a sufficient supply of liquid soap, warm water and paper hand towel. Each sanitary area has wall mounted warm air hand dryers. Foot pedal bins were available in all sanitary areas, for the safe disposal of used paper towels.

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- The pre-school rooms and sanitary accommodations are ventilated by openable windows and mechanical ventilation.
- Turnkey mechanisms are available on all external doors and emergency exits.

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)
Nine adults employed in the service have a current certification in FAR training.

(2)(a)
A suitably equipped first aid box was available in each care room.

(b)
The first aid box was clearly identifiable and readily accessible in each room.

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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 firefighting 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)

The manager confirmed that fire drills will continue to be carried out in all pre-school rooms following the opening of the proposed new care room.

(b)

The maintenance records of the firefighting equipment and the smoke detection system were available dated December 2024 and February 2025 respectively.

(4)

There were notices available in conspicuous positions in all care rooms, including the proposed new room, of the procedure 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.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection. The Registered Provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28. There was evidence of an insurance policy for 67 pre-school children in place which expires on the 27th of 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.

(a)

The service is located on the ground floor and second floor of a purpose-built facility.

(b)

The point of entry to the service is through the main door which is monitored by the manager and is locked with an electronic keypad mechanism. The small outdoor area is secured with a high metal fence and two high concrete walls. A securely locked gate allows for a one-way system from the outdoor area to the street. There are two access doors from the main building to the outdoor area, the first from the ground floor corridor and the second at the stair well of the service. These access doors are monitored to prevent a child leaving unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.

(c)

The premises benefits from natural light via windows in the pre-school rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from covered fluorescent ceiling lights in the pre-school rooms. There is an air to water heating system in place which has been installed in November 2023. Windows in the pre-school rooms can be opened but have restrictors in place and there is a mixture of mechanical and natural ventilation in the sanitary areas.

(d)

A cleaning schedule is in place in all pre-school rooms. The premises and surrounding environment were clean and well maintained.

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	<p>(e)</p> <p>On the ground floor there is sanitary accommodation located adjacent to Toddler room 1 with two child size toilets, two sinks and a nappy changing unit. The Creche room has a large, separate changing room with a large changing table that contains two changing mats and three low level sinks. Upstairs in Toddler room 2 there is sanitary accommodation located in the room with two child size toilets and two sinks.</p> <p>In the proposed new service room, there are three child size toilets and three sinks. There is a separate toilet and wash hand basin located on both the first and ground floor for adults and another toilet with disability access. Thermostatically controlled hot water was available in the children’s sanitary areas and the temperature of the water in the low sinks was 36.0°C.</p>
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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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of the number of children proposing to attend the new care room as demonstrated below:

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(2)

The clear floor space in the proposed Pre-school room measured 49.71 square metres and will be able to accommodate the following age ranges.

18 children aged 1-2 years, or

21 children aged 2-6 years.