

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2025CC003
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Name of Service:	Múin Preschool Carrigaline
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Address of Service:	Carrigaline GAA Club, Crosshaven Road, Kilnaglery, Carrigaline, Co Cork, P43DA09.
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Email Address:	muincarrigaline@gmail.com
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Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Kate Gaffney & Clodagh Barrett
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sessional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed service type:	Part Time and Sessional Service
Proposed Number of Children:	33
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Part-Time/Sessional service for 33 children aged from 2 years 6 months to 6 years, from 09:00 to 14:00 Monday to Friday.
Registered service:	Registered Part-Time/Sessional Service for 33 children

Date of Inspection:	2	4	0	7	2	0	2	5
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Inspection Undertaken by:	M. O' Reilly
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate Child & Family Agency Hospital Grounds, Coolnagarrane, Skibbereen, Co Cork P81 PD78
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Rationale for Inspection
Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part-Time/Sessional Service for 33 children
Date of Registration:	05 <sup>th</sup> August 2025

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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	Múin Preschool Carrigaline proposes to operate a part time day care and sessional service catering for children aged from two years six months to six years and for children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme. It will be a privately operated service and proposes to cater for up to a maximum of 33 children on the premises at any one time. The proposed opening times that the service will be carried out are from 9am to 2pm each day Monday to Friday.
Premises	The service is located in a detached two storey building on the grounds of a GAA Club in Carrigaline, Co Cork. The room was previously used as the GAA gym room. The area has been refurbished and comprises of one playroom, adequate child and adult toilet facilities, all located on the first floor of the building. The enclosed metal stairway leading to the service is also the emergency fire exit route from the service. The door at the bottom of the stairs and the entrance door to the service located on the first floor are both emergency fire exit doors. The staff have access to a second stairs leading from the service on the first floor. The GAA dressing rooms are located on the ground floor of the building. It is proposed that the children will have access to a small designated outdoor play area beside the facility. The registered providers stated that the GAA have allowed the service access to one of the enclosed astroturf pitches located near the service. There is a car park located near the service allowing a set down area for children and parents for arrival and departure from the service.
Staffing	It is proposed that there will be three staff employed to work directly with the children when the facility opens on the 1 September 2025. The proposed person in charge and the adults that propose to work directly with the children at the service will have completed a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education.
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</p>

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	administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed two named registered providers and one of the staff from a sister service 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) A named person in charge and a deputy have been appointed for the service
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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 fit for purpose inspection was carried out in the absence of children. It is proposed three adults will be employed who will work directly with the children when service is operating to maximum capacity.
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### 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,

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*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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) There are low shelves provided in the playroom that are accessible to the children. The shelves are stocked with a large selection of activities, equipment and play materials that were all functioning and maintained in good condition. There is a designated outdoor play area available beside the service.</p> <p>(b) There were suitable sleep equipment for children over 2 years 6 months who will require a sleep while attending the service. There were three padded foldable floor mats with suitable bed linen. There was a designated rest areas provided in the playroom consisting of domestic cushions and a floor mat.</p> <p>(2)(a), (3)(a) There is a small outdoor play area provided beside the premise. The outdoor play area has a combination of tarmac and cement surface enclosed with a timber fence and gate that will be secured when the children are playing outdoors. There is a mud kitchen and sand unit with a cover and accompanying play equipment purchased for this area. There is a secured astroturf pitch located near the premise that the children will have access to while the service is in operation. The gate leading to the astroturf pitch will be secured when the children are playing outdoors.</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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>It is proposed that the parents will provide all the food and drink requirements for the children while attending the service.</p> <p>The registered provider advised there will be potable drinking water available to the children.</p> <p>A fridge is provided to store perishable foods provided by parents.</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.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirements have been met.

The entrance door on the ground floor and the entrance door to the service located on the first floor are emergency fire exit doors. There is an alarm on the entrance door to the service to reduce the risk of unauthorised access by a person onto the premise or the leaving of an unsupervised child.

The emergency fire exit doors were unobstructed at time of inspection.

The door leading to the other stairs has a key stored at adult height beside the door when not in use.

The main stairwell to the playroom has a handrail at child and adult height.

All of the cupboards at child height have a childproof lock in place.

All toys and play equipment in the proposed playroom are safe and in good condition.

At time of inspection there were no loose and accessible electrical cables in the service.

All bins in the service were pedal operated and lidded.

There was thermostatically controlled warm water and antibacterial liquid soap at all wash hand basins. There is a wall mounted battery-operated disposable paper hand towel dispenser available at the wash hand basins for hygienic hand washing and hygienic hand drying in the adult and children's toilet facilities.

There are a number of velux openable ceiling windows in the playroom. There is one openable window in the children's and adult toilet.

Cleaning equipment and materials will be stored in areas that are inaccessible to children.

Safe storage is provided for the children's belongings which includes their coats and bags that will be stored in cubby shelf area in the playroom.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) One adult in the service has a current first aid responder (FAR) training
- (2)
  - (a) The first aid box is stored in a conspicuous location at adult height in the playroom.
  - (b) First aid supplies will be available to the children at all times throughout the hours of operation.

### 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) The requirement is met in relation to the provision of a form for recording monthly fire drills.
  - (b) A record of the number and type of firefighting equipment and wired smoke alarm were available on file. It was recorded that fire equipment was last serviced in July 2025. It was recorded that the mains operated smoke alarm system was last tested and serviced in August 2024
- (4) The service has a designated assembly point that is signposted, in the event of a fire.  
A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed on the wall of the playroom.

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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.  
Evidence of insurance was available.  
An insurance certificate was available indicating cover for 22 children attending a part time service. The insurance certificate expires on the 27 March 2026.  
While the service has space to accommodate 33 children. There are 16 children booked to commence in the service on the 01 September 2025 hence the reason the current insurance covers a maximum of 22 children. The registered provider is aware that if more than 22 children will attend the service at any one time, the insurance cover will be amended to reflect the increase in the number of children in attendance in 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:

The requirement has been met.  
(a) The provider proposes to operate a part-time day-care service in a facility that has been adapted to provide an early years' service. From a visual assessment, the premises appears to be of sound and stable structure. No mould or cracks were visible.  
(b) The entrance door to the preschool is adequately secured to prevent access by an unauthorised adult.  
(c) Natural ventilation is supplied through openable velux ceiling windows in the proposed playroom and the children's and adult sanitary facilities. Adequate light in the care room and toilet facilities is supplied by a combination of natural light and ceiling lights with protective covers. Heating is provided by new wall mounted electric heaters. The playroom air temperature and toilet area air temperatures were recorded at between 20 and 21°C during the inspection. The care room temperature should be maintained between 18°C and 22°C.

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	<p>(d) Cleaning schedules templates were available, and all the play materials were clean and in good condition.</p> <p>(e) There are three designated toilets, and three wash hand basins provided for the children. There is a designated toilet and wash hand basin available for use by the adults.</p> <p>The premise is serviced by a public sewage system and the water source is from a public supply.</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.*
- (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.*

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) Adequate floor space is provided in the care room to enable the free movement of children, as they engage in play and learning activities.</p> <p>(2) The available clear floor space meets the requirement for a maximum of 33 children. The room measured 76.50 m<sup>2</sup>. The playroom has sufficient floor space for the proposed 33 (ECCE) early years children to attend the service each morning. The room can accommodate a maximum of 33 children aged between 2 years and 6 months to 6 years attending part-time day-care children each afternoon.</p> <p>(3) The total floor space of 76.50m<sup>2</sup> in the preschool room allows for the proposed 33 sessional children with a minimum of 1.818 m<sup>2</sup> of clear floor space available for each child attending the proposed sessional service each morning.</p>
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