

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2025DL004							
<b>Name of Service:</b>	Shellys Childcare Ltd.							
<b>Address of Service:</b>	1 Dunree Centre St. Mary's Road Buncrana Co. Donegal F93 CKC6							
<b>Email Address:</b>	michellemckenna2019@gmail.com							
<b>Name of Proposed Registered Provider:</b>	Michelle McKenna							
<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Drop-In</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Sessional</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Childminding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Proposed service type:</b>	Full day care, Part Time, Sessional							
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	44							
<b>Outcome of the F06 Inspection</b> (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Type of service: Full day care, Part time, Sessional Maximum number of children aged 2-6 years. Maximum number of children: 44 Opening time of service: 07:30-18:00							
<b>Registered service:</b>	Registered Full Day Care, Part-Time, Sessional service for 44 children aged 2-6 years from 07:30-18:00							
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	1	5	1	0	2	0	2	5
<b>Inspection Undertaken by:</b>	K Folan							
<b>Title:</b>	Early years inspector							
<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F92 TD92							

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### Rationale for Inspection

### Proposed New Service

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day Care, Part-Time, Sessional service for 44 children
<b>Date of Registration:</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> October 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	The proposed registered provider is seeking to open a full day care, part time and sessional preschool service for 44 children aged 2 to 6 years of age. The service will operate from 07:30 18:00 hrs, Monday to Friday.
<b>Premises</b>	The premises consists of two playrooms, sanitary accommodation for children and adults and a kitchen in a refurbished commercial unit in the town of Buncrana Co. Donegal. An outdoor area is situated at the front of the building.
<b>Staffing</b>	It is proposed that six adults will work in the service. The registered provider will not work in the service on a daily basis.
<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 Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and person in charge who was present on the day of the inspection.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

### 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:

It is proposed that six adults will work directly with the preschool children. A person in charge and a deputy person in charge have been identified to manage the service. A manager and chef will also work in the service.

### 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 proposed a roster that will ensure there is an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the preschool 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.

(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:

(1)(a)

The service consists of two bright and spacious playrooms. There was sufficient play materials for children's learning and development. The preschool rooms were

equipped with low level accessible shelving stocked with puzzles, jigsaws and materials for fine motor development such as threading beads. Sensory trays with sand and water were available. A home corner, construction area, and art station were available for imaginative play. A book area was situated beside a sofa providing a quiet space for children.

(1)(b)

Each of the two care rooms provided sofas and cushions should a child require a rest during the day. If any child required sleep during the day, sleep mats with fresh linen were available.

(2)(a)

The outdoor area is available to the front of the building. It is surrounded by steel fencing and a secure gate. Items for outdoor play such as footballs, goals, and cones are stored in boxes which will be brought outside for play. A separate storage area for ride on vehicles is available to the side of the outdoor area.

**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 service proposes to provide suitable and nutritious food to all preschool children attending the service. Food will be prepared onsite. A weekly menu outlining breakfast, snacks and a hot meal is available.

Portable drinking water is available in all care rooms throughout the operation of the service.

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## Initial Inspection of Proposed New 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:

This requirement has been met.

- The main door into the service is locked to prevent unauthorised access and prevent a child leaving unsupervised.
- The floor covering is nonslip and in good condition.
- Cleaning agents are stored out of reach of children.
- Waste is inaccessible to preschool children.
- Warm water and liquid soap are provided for handwashing
- All flexes and cables were secure
- The door to the kitchen is secure preventing the children from gaining unauthorised access.
- Warm water, liquid soap and paper towels are available for handwashing.

### 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:

This requirement has been met

(1) The registered provider demonstrated that a sufficient number of adults who will work directly with the preschool children are trained with first aid for children.

(2) (a) (b)

Two suitably equipped first aid boxes were available in the service care rooms for the preschool children.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

### 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) (a)

The service is aware of the required frequency of fire drills and had a proposed schedule of monthly fire drills.

(b)

The number and type of firefighting equipment was made available for review with a maintenance date of 14 August 2025. Smoke alarms were serviced on the 19 August 2025.

(4)

Fire evacuation procedures were clearly displayed in all care rooms and a fire assembly point had been identified at the front of the premises.

### 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. The service has insurance currently in place for 44 children from 01 September 2025 to 27 March 2026.

This service's registration is contingent upon the Registered Provider maintaining up-to-date insurance coverage that accurately reflects the number of children attending 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:**

- (a) The registered provider is not aware of any structural defects in the building and on superficial visual inspection, the building appeared of sound and stable structure with no visible defects.
- (b) The service was adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry. Access to the building is gained via a bell system. The two front doors of the building were secured to ensure children cannot leave the building unsupervised.
- (c) An adequate source of heating was provided in the service and sanitary accommodation. This consisted of an 3 in 1 heating, cooling and ventilation system which is thermostatically controlled via a digital panel. The air temperature in each playroom on the day of inspection registered within the recommended 18 -22°C range. The lighting was provided by natural light supplemented with fluorescent ceiling light fittings with protective covers. The sanitary accommodation was provided with openable windows and mechanical ventilation.
- (d) The premises appeared to be in a good state of repair and was clean on the day of inspection with walls smoothly rendered and painted. The building is connected to a mains water supply providing appropriate drinking water for staff and children and running water for cleaning.
- (e) The service had one toilet and wash hand basin for adults working in the service and four child sized toilets and four wash hand basins for children.

### 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.*
- (a) *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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of the proposed number of 44 children.

(3)(a)(b) The size of the preschool rooms provides the required floor space for a proposed maximum number of 44 preschool children in the proposed age range attending on a full day care basis.

Name of Room	Clear floor space	Maximum number of children for a sessional service based on floor space.	Maximum number of children for a full day care service based on floor space.
Classroom 1	52.93m <sup>2</sup>	29	22
Classroom 2	50.53m <sup>2</sup>	27	22
<b>Total</b>		<b>56</b>	<b>44</b>