

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2025DR005											
Name of Service:	Ashgrove Creche and Montessori School											
Address of Service:	1 Dundrum Road, Churchtown Lower, Dublin. D14NW80											
Email Address:	andreaeganbyrne@gmail.com											
Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Andrea Byrne											
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/Sessional service											
Proposed Number of Children:	13											
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service can accommodate 10 children who attend on a part-time basis or 13 children on a sessional basis only (maximum of 3.5 hours). The number of children attending each room must be in accordance with those outlined under Regulation 30. The service is proposing to operate from 8:00am to 13:00pm Monday to Friday. 											
Registered service:	Registered Part-Time/Sessional service for 13 children (Max. 10 Part-Time)											
Date of Inspection:	0	9	0	7	2	0	2	5				
Inspection Undertaken by:	Sarah Quigley and Rachael Duff											
Title:	Early Years Inspectors											
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Tusla – Child & Family Agency, Trinity Building, IDA Business Park, Bray, Co Wicklow.											

Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part-Time/Sessional service for 13 children (Max. 10 Part-Time)
Date of Registration:	8 th August 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	The proposed private childcare facility aims to provide sessional and part-time care for pre-school children aged two to six years of age. The proposed hours of operation are between 08:00hrs and 13:00hrs and the service proposes to accommodate a maximum number of 10 children attending on a part-time care basis or 13 on a sessional basis. School aged care will be offered outside the opening hours of the preschool service within the premises.
Premises	The premises are located at ground level in an adapted commercial unit in an urban area of Churchtown, south county Dublin. It is a purposely adapted and has one open plan care room, a kitchen, and sanitary accommodation. There is an enclosed outdoor space to the rear of the premises.
Staffing	The registered provider has appointed a manager for the service and a named person to deputise as required. These two adults are proposed to work in the service and the registered provider will provide relief cover where necessary. Adults employed to work with children have attained at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications, or a qualification deemed to be equivalent.
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 four themes; Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the Child, Safety and Premises.

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	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.
Acknowledgement	The Inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and 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:	The requirement has been met. (1)(a) The registered provider has ensured that there is 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.

*(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—
(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and
(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.*

Requirement met:	The requirement has been met.
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(1) The registered provider has stated that there will be an adequate number of adults working with the children attending the service. Two adults are available to work in the service to ensure the required adult to child ratio is maintained. These two adults are already employed by the registered provider.

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—
- 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
 - 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—
- 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 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, or
 - where no such space is provided, the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis to a suitable outdoor space.
- (4) Where outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access is provided on the premises of a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable, safe and secure.
- (5) Where pre-school children attending a sessional pre-school service other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, a temporary pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre have access to an outdoor space other than such a space specified in paragraph (4), the registered provider shall ensure that such outdoor space is suitable.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service comprises of one open plan care room. The room is bright and spacious and well laid out to cater for the age range of children which will be attending.

(1)(b) The registered provider stated they do not intend to accommodate sleeping children as the children proposed to attend will be aged over two years and be present in the service for a maximum of five hours. However, sleep mats and bed

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linen are available in the service should a child require sleep, and a suitable rest area is provided within the care room.

(2)(a) There is an outdoor area provided on the premises. There is direct access from the care room to the outdoor area which has an impact absorbing covering suitable for use all year round. The area is secured by an appropriate perimeter fencing.

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 service stated they will be providing meals and snacks to the children and there are facilities available for the provision of adequate food and drink for children. The registered provider has notified the relevant health authority regarding the preparation of food on the premises. The provider proposes snacks will be prepared freshly in the service each day and an external catering company will be utilised to provide a hot meal to the children attending a part-time basis which will be re-constituted on site.

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.

Mechanisms were in place to ensure external doors will be secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service. The gate in the outdoor area is suitably secured. All window blind cords are secured. There is provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste including the provision of foot pedal operated bins in sanitary areas. Cleaning schedules are in place.

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 person in charge and the second staff member have current certification in first aid responder (FAR) training for children.

(2)(a) A suitably equipped first aid box are provided in the service. The box was clearly identifiable and readily accessible.

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 registered provider has indicated that fire drills will be carried out when the service is operational.

(1)(b) There is a record available relating to the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the commissioning of the fire detection and alarm system.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire are displayed conspicuously in the service. The fire assembly point is identified to the rear of the premises.

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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:

Evidence of adequate insurance has been submitted to the registration office.

It is the responsibility of the registered provider to maintain 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:

The requirement has been met.

(a) The service will be located at ground level in a purposely adapted commercial property.

(b) There is one point of entry to the childcare service. The main door which allows access directly into the service and will be locked with entry requested by a bell at the entrance. The outdoor area is secured to prevent a child leaving the area unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.

(c) The premises benefits from high levels of natural light via openable windows. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from covered ceiling lights in the room, kitchen, and sanitary areas. There is an electrical heating system in place and an air conditioning unit to ensure required temperatures are maintained.

(d) Cleaning schedules are in place and the premises, and its environs were clean and well maintained.

(e) Sanitary facilities have been provided in the service. There are two toilets and two wash hand basins designated for children's use. The service intends to take children who are toileting independently, however, a nappy changing mat is available in the service if required. One toilet has been provided for adults. Two sinks are also

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available in the care kitchen. Thermostatically controlled hot water is available and did not exceed 43°C.

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.
- (4) 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).
- (5) A registered provider of a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a minimum of 2 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child 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 children attending the service as demonstrated below:

	Care room
Clear floor space	25sqm
Proposed age range	2 – 6 years
Max number of children	10 (PT) 13 (Sessional)