

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

**Tusla I.D:** TU2025DS001

**Name of Service:** Cocoon Childcare

**Address of Service:** 33-35 Dodderbrook Rise, Ballycullen, Dublin 24, D24E4AP

**Email Address:** nikki@cocoonchildcare.ie

**Name of Proposed Registered Provider:** Nikki Battams

<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input checked="" 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:** Full Day Care, Sessional care

**Proposed Number of Children:** 85

**Outcome of the F06 Inspection**  
(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,) Full Day Care/Sessional service for 85 children aged 0-6 years, from 07:30-18:30 each weekday for 51 weeks of the year

**Registered service:** Registered Full Day Care/Sessional Service for 85 Children

**Date of Inspection:** 0 4 0 9 2 0 2 5

**Inspection Undertaken by:** R Phillips M Condon

**Title:** Early Years Inspectors

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Level 7 Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Kilmainham, D08X01F

<b>Rationale for Inspection</b>
<b>Proposed New Service</b>

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

**Registration Status:** Registered Full Day Care/Sessional Service for 85 Children

**Date of Registration:** 10<sup>th</sup> September 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	This new privately run service is located in a residential area in Ballycullen, Dublin 24. The service will provide full day care and sessional childcare to children aged between 0-6 years. Opening times will be between 07:30-18:30hrs Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year.
<b>Premises</b>	The service will operate from a purpose-built setting with seven care rooms and two designated sleep rooms. There are three care rooms on the ground floor, and four on the first floor. An enclosed outdoor area is available at the rear of the premises.
<b>Staffing</b>	The service has a manager and deputy manager, a cook and ten childcare practitioners employed presently. Future staffing will depend on the number of children attending and their ages. The registered provider in discussion with the inspector demonstrated an awareness of staffing levels required for the number and age range of children who may be registered.
<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 registration 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 registered provider and person in charge who were 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:**

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service has a designated 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:**

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider has ensured that there is a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise if required. There are an additional 10 staff members available to commence employment.

It is acknowledged that the person in charge is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 1 of Schedule 6 and will ensure that an adequate number of adults will work directly with the pre-school children in the service. The staffing complement will increase depending on the number of children present and their ages.

### 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:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The care rooms are fully equipped with a range of play materials and equipment suitable to the age range of the children who will be attending. There are low level tables and chairs and open shelving so the children will be able to access the materials for manipulative creative, sensory and imaginative play.

(1)(b) The care rooms each have a suitable rest area, with soft mats and cushions available for children to take a break from activities.

There are a total of 16 cots in the two designated sleep rooms on the ground floor.

There are also 8 floor beds and 42 stackable floor beds in storage areas throughout the service, available to facilitate the children to sleep.

(2)(a) The enclosed outdoor area adjacent to the premises provides space for the children who will be attending to promote their gross motor development, with ride on toys, slide and climbing structures and sensory experiences with sand, water and a seesaw. The ground is covered with artificial grass. The outdoor area is fully enclosed and secured to prevent unauthorised entry or a child exiting unsupervised. The outdoor area is new, well maintained and no hazards were observed

### 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 requirement has been met.

- A full-time cook is employed by the service.
- A four-week menu plan is available.
- Allergens have been identified.
- Drinking water will be visible and available to all children in the care rooms.
- Three meals and two snacks will be offered to children attending as per the menu plan.
- Refrigerated storage facilities are available for perishable snacks.

### 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 external environment and doors are secure to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised access.
- There are no hazards in the outdoor areas.
- The staircase is adequately lit and handrails provided where necessary.
- There are no loose cables, exposed bolts or sharp edges or pinch or crush points on toys or equipment.
- The service has an infection control policy in place to guide practice and avoid spread of infection.
- There is provision for the appropriate storage and disposal of waste with the use of pedal operated bins in the sanitary area and care rooms.
- Cleaning schedules are in place and cleaning materials are appropriately stored out of reach of children.
- Fire exits are unobstructed.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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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 is met.

- (1) The roster and First Aid Responder training certificates provides evidence that an adult who has in date First Aid Responder training will be available to the children at all times of opening. Three staff have in date FAR training certificates. Another staff member has completed the course and is awaiting certification.
- (2) (a)(b)
- Two suitably equipped first aid boxes are provided. One in the office on the ground floor, the other is on the landing on the first floor. Both are stored in an easily accessible conspicuous place.

### 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 is met.

- (1)(a) The registered provider has stated that fire drills will be carried out on a monthly basis. A template is available for recording same.
- (b) There is a record available relating to the number type and maintenance of firefighting equipment and for the fire detection and alarm system.
- (4) The notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed conspicuously in the care rooms and the fire assembly point is clearly identifiable.

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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 that insurance is in place for the required number of children and type of service was observed.

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:

The requirement has been met.

(a) The full day care service will operate out of a purpose-built building, over two levels. The registered provider confirmed that the premises is of sound and stable structure.

(b) The registered provider has taken appropriate measures to safeguard the premises.

(c) The care rooms are adequately lit with both natural and artificial lighting. The lighting can be turned down manually for sleep. Blinds are also fitted to control light levels.

The care rooms were comfortable temperatures with thermostatically controlled wall mounted radiators. The service has an air exchange system that maintains air temperature and provides ventilation.

The windows provide additional ventilation.

	<p>(d)The premises and surrounding environment are clean and well maintained. Cleaning schedules are in place and cleaning equipment is available and safely stored out of the reach of children. The services of a pest control contract were confirmed.</p> <p>(e)The service is equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities. There are two children’s toilets and low-level sinks downstairs, as well as five children’s toilets and six sinks upstairs. There are four nappy changing facilities altogether, with three downstairs, with adequate sinks for adults, and children’s level sinks adjacent. There are two staff toilets available. There are additional sinks at adult and children’s levels available in the care rooms for hand washing at other times.</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) *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).*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of children attending the service.</p> <p>(2)(3) There is sufficient clear floor space to accommodate the proposed number of children in respect of their age range.</p>
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