

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2025KY001

Name of Service: Cherryblossoms Knocknagoshel EY

Address of Service: Knocknagoshel National School, Knocknagoshel, Co. Kerry V92 HD00

Email Address: cherryblossomschildcareltd@gmail.com

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Christina Dunstan

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

Proposed service type: Part-Time

Proposed Number of Children: 16

Outcome of the F06 Inspection
(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,) Part-Time service for 15 children, aged 2 to 6 years operating from 9.00am to 2.00pm.

Registered service: Registered Part-Time service for 15 Children

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

Inspection Undertaken by: N O'Donoghue

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla Early Years Inspectorate, 13 Market Square, Mallow, Co Cork, P51 DD5Y

Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status: Registered Part-Time service for 15 Children

Date of Registration: 12th 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).

Description of Service	The service proposes to offer part-time services catering for children aged from 2 to 6 years. It proposes to operate from 9.00am to 2.00pm, Monday to Friday for 38 weeks of the year. The Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE) operates from 9.00am to 12.00pm and a school age service also operates from the service. There are three toilets, provided off the main care room for use by the children and adult toilets are available in the building. The service has direct access to a secure outdoor area from the entrance door of the service.
Premises	The service proposes to operate from one classroom in Knocknagoshel National School in County Kerry. The proposed service is located in the rural village of Knocknagoshel. The proposed care room is located within the national school; three children's sanitary facilities are located adjacent to the care room and the adult sanitary facilities are located within the building. The outdoor play area is located to the rear and front of the building.
Staffing	The service proposes to employ three staff members, including the registered provider.
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 administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.</p>
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and/or person in charge who were present on the day of the inspection.

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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 has been assigned to the service, along with a deputy person in charge, who can deputise, as required. Information to this effect was on display in the main entrance area.
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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) It is proposed that up to 15 children, aged 2 to 6 years will be accommodated at the setting and that there will be 3 adults working directly with these children.
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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, 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 room has been furnished and laid out in consideration of the developmental needs and proposed age range of the children. There is a sufficient quantity of child sized tables and chairs available and play resources are visible and accessible at child height. For example, interest items such as jigsaws, construction materials, musical instruments and hand held vehicles are arranged on low-level, open shelving. Suitably equipped home corners are also provided, along with
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materials such as books, dress up clothes and dolls. The outdoor play area is equipped with a large range of play material such as a tractor play house, sand tray, outdoor kitchen, see-saw and rock climbing wall.

(b) The care room has a designated rest area with cushions, couches and a floor mat. The service has 2 stackable beds available for children who may need to rest and sleep within the service. The registered provider stated she has additional stackable beds available to cater for their proposed number of children.

(2) (a) The proposed care room has direct access to a fully enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the building.

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.

- The healthy eating policy was reviewed and was found to contain all the core requirements.
- Parents and guardians will provide snacks and hot meals.
- Additional food was available to be provided by the service if required.
- A refrigerator is available in the care room for the storage of perishable foods.
- One microwave is available in the service for heating food. The registered provider is aware to provide additional microwaves to adequately cater for their number of children.
- Children will have access to drinking water throughout the day and will use their own water bottles which can be refilled in the service.
- Suitable cutlery and crockery are available for the children’s use in the 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:

The requirement has been met.

General safety:

- There are no trailing cables or flexes within the children’s reach.
- Suitable storage is available for cleaning agents and equipment.
- The first aid box within the care room is maintained at adult height.
- Fire exits routes are free from obstruction and fire exit signage is illuminated.
- Fire extinguishers are wall mounted.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy furniture, such as storage units, have been securely anchored. • The outdoor play area is secured with a concrete wall and gate. • All waste is inaccessible both indoors and outdoors. <p>Infection control:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The water temperatures recorded in the two proposed sanitary accommodations for use by the children for the proposed care room recorded temperatures of between 32°C to 38.8°C. • Wall mounted hooks were available for children’s coats and bags.
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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:	<p>The requirement is met.</p> <p>(1) Three staff members have up to date training in First Aid Responder, two of the certificates are valid until February and September 2026 and one certificate is valid until June 2027.</p> <p>(2) (a) There is a suitably equipped wall mounted first aid box available on the premises.</p> <p>(b) The first aid box will be available to the children attending the service at all times.</p>
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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 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:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1) (a) Written provision is in place to record the monthly fire drills that will be undertaken.</p> <p>(b) The available firefighting equipment within the proposed childcare facility is documented in writing. The servicing record for the firefighting equipment is dated 02 September 2025 and a maintenance report in respect of the smoke alarm is dated 30 August 2025.</p>
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(4) The service's fire evacuation procedure, which contains details in relation to the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire, is clearly displayed in all of the care rooms. Signage highlighting the fire assembly point is clearly visible.

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.

The insurance quote for a maximum of 22 children to attend the service. The certificate is valid from 01 September 2025 to 27 March 2026. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change.

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 requirements have been met.

- (a) The service is operating within a classroom of the local national school and the proposed care room appears to be of a sound and stable structure.
- (b) The entrance door to the service is secured by a keypad lock system outdoors and a press button exit indoors which is not accessible to the children. This reduces the risk of unauthorised access and a child leaving the service unsupervised. The designated outdoor play area is enclosed by a concrete wall and a gate.
- (c) The care room is provided with a supply of natural light, through glass windows and doors. This is supplemented by LED ceiling lights, with protective covers, which are also available in the sanitary facilities. Adequate ventilation is provided in the care rooms through openable windows. Mechanical ventilation is in place in the sanitary facilities.
- (d) The service appeared to be clean and well maintained, and in a good state of repair. A written cleaning schedule was available for the service.
- (e) A total of three toilets and two wash hand basins are available across the children's sanitary facilities. There is also one nappy changing unit in place, which allow for up to 11 children in nappies to be accommodated. One toilet and one wash

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hand basins are accessible for staff. The premises is serviced by a public water and sewage system.

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:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) There is adequate clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement of the children planning to attend the additional preschool service.
- (2) The proposed new care room was measured at 35.79 m².
- (3) The registered provider proposes to contemporaneously cater for children attending the sessional service and the part time/full day care service. The Preschool room allows for the children attending the sessional service, to have a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space during this time.