

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015CC087

Name of Service: Caterpillars Montessori

Address of Service: Crosshaven Rugby Club
Myrtleville Cross
Crosshaven
Co Cork

Email Address: Caterpillarsmontessori1@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Tara O'Donovan

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time		Sessional	☒
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:	Change of address Change of number of children catered for from 15 to 17 Change in times of operation to 12.30 -3.30pm.
Proposed Number of Children:	17
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	17
Registered change:	Change in Service Address from Tennis Club, Crosshaven, Cork, P43 HV58 to Crosshaven Rugby Club, Myrtleville Cross, Co. Cork Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 15 to 17 Change in hours of operation from 08:45-11:45 12:15-15:15 to 12.30 – 15:30

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

Inspection undertaken by: V. McCarthy
Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, Administration Building,
St Mary's Health Campus, Gurranabraher,
Cork

Rationale for Inspection:



Child and Family Agency Act 2013
Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016

Version 05
Publishing 1.1
Implemented- Aug 2022
EYIPRIRPCOCS01-2017

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Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Sessional Service for 17 Children
Date of Registration	7 th October 2022

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	Caterpillars Montessori is registered as a Sessional service that provides care to children aged between 2 and 6 years of age. The service proposes to operate from Crosshaven Ruby club temporarily while renovations take place at its normal premises. It is proposed that the service will only carry out afternoon services during this time and operate a sessional service between 12.30am and 3.30pm.
Premises	The rugby club premise is a detached one storey building that is in a rural setting. The proposed care room is situated at one end of the building. One of the proposed children's toilets will be accessed directly off the care room. The second children's toilet and adult toilet area will be accessed off a corridor close to the care room. An enclosed outdoor area has been provided adjacent to the care room to the side of the building.
Staffing	It is proposed that there will be four adults attached to the service. There will always be at least two adults on the premises including the registered provider who will be service based.
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 the following themes; Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises. 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 registering the change in circumstance. 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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider who was present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff

 An Ghníomhaireacht um Leannai agus an Teaghlach Child and Family Agency	Child and Family Agency Act 2013 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016	Version 05 Publishing 1.1 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYIPRIRPCOCS01-2017	2 of 12
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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 record of the named person in charge and named adult who can deputise as required displayed in the care room.

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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.

(1) The adult child ratios as per schedule 6 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 will be adhered to. It is proposed that there will be two adults in attendance with the proposed 17 early years children.

(8)(b) Not applicable as this will not be a child-minder service.

(c) Not applicable as this will not be a single-handedly operated service.

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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—*
- (b) *of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises 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 (2) 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 or*
 - (b) *where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service*
- (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) There is a selection of play and Montessori materials provided in the proposed care room that are all functioning and maintained in good condition.
- (b) There are adequate rest facilities consisting of a child sized couch, soft seating and mats provided in the proposed care room for children to rest on as they choose during the day.
- (2)(b), (3)(a) There is a secured outdoor play area provided to the side of the premises.
- (3)(b) Not applicable as the registered provider proposes to provide a sessional service with its own designated outdoor play area on the premises.
- (4) Not applicable as the registered provider will be providing a sessional service.
- (5) Not applicable as the registered provider will be providing a sessional service

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Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

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 food available for the children's snacks will be provided by the children's respective parents and guardians. A supply of appropriate crockery and cutlery will be available for children's use at their snack breaks. A fridge is available in the proposed care room to store the children's perishable food. Bottles of water will be stored in the fridge for children's use and cups will be positioned beside the fridge so that a child may easily access a drink of water if he/she is thirsty.

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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 main door of the building is secured by a lock to prevent the unauthorised access of a person or the exit of an unsupervised child. The door has also been fitted with an alarm to alert the adults if the door is opened in error.
- The two large care room windows are fitted with window restrictors and can be tilted open to ventilate the room.
- Thermostatically controlled hot water for safe hand washing is provided at the two wash hand basins that will be used by children and at the wash hand basin in the adult's toilet area. The water temperature was recorded at 23.5°C during the inspection. Liquid soap, paper towels and pedal bins with lids are provided in the proposed three toilet spaces and the proposed care room.
- The cleaning agents are stored on a high shelf out of children's reach.
- The first aid box is stored on a high shelf out of children's reach.
- The registered provider informed the inspector that any medications will be stored in a separate container on a high shelf out of children's reach.
- A fridge is available in the care room to store perishable foods for the children's mid-morning snack break that will be provided by the children's respective parents and guardians.
- The electric radiator has been wall mounted high out of children's reach. The air room temperature was monitored at 18.1°C in the proposed care room.
- The ceiling strip lights have each been provided with covers.
- The play materials and equipment, Montessori materials, books and child sized furniture that are set up in the proposed care room are noted to be clean, functioning and in good condition.
- The outdoor play area is surrounded by high fencing and secured gates.

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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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) A copy of an up to date First Aid Response (FAR) certificates are available on file in rest of each of the four adults.

(2)(a) There is a fully equipped first aid box available in the service and it is stored on a high shelf out of the children's reach.

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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 firefighting 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 the recording of monthly fire drills.

(b) A record of the number and type of firefighting equipment is available on file.

Records are available to demonstrate that the wired smoke alarm was serviced during September 2022 and the fire equipment was serviced during August 2022.

(4) A notice of procedure to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the proposed care room.

The service has a designated assembly point in the event of a fire in the car park area which is clearly identified by signage.

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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:

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection. The Registered Provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.

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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) No mould or cracks were visible on the walls, ceilings or floors of the care room and toilet areas during the inspection. The proposed care room is situated to one end of the one storey detached building and has recently been decorated and painted.

(b) The entrance door to the premises is fitted with a lock and an alarm to prevent unauthorised access by a person or the leaving of an unsupervised child. The outdoor play area is secured by high fencing and gates. It is proposed that any medicines will be stored separately to the first aid box on a high shelf out of children's reach. The first aid box is stored on a high shelf out of children's reach.

(c) The proposed care room is provided with natural light by means of two large windows. Adequate ceiling lights are provided that are covered by protective covers. The premise is supplied with electric heating and the radiator is wall mounted high out of children's reach. The air temperature was recorded at 18.1°C on the day of the inspection.

Adequate ventilation is provided in the care room by means of high positioned narrow windows and two large windows that can be tilted open as required.

Adequate natural ventilation is provided in one of the children's toilet areas and the adult toilet area. The second toilet area proposed for use by the children is an internal space situated off a corridor. This toilet space has not been provided with mechanical ventilation but the corridor it opens onto has been fitted with mechanical ventilation which is positioned directly outside this toilet area.

(d) Cleaning schedules are available and stored on high shelving. All play materials, equipment and furniture were noted to be clean and in good condition during the inspection.

(e) There are two toilets and two wash hand basins for children's use on the premises. One of the toilets is accessed directly off the care room and has been provided with a timber anchored barrier so that any child using the toilet can do so in privacy and have their dignity maintained. The registered provider informed the inspector if more than one child needs to use the toilet at the same time and therefore a child has to walk through the first toilet to access the corridor that leads to the second toilet, she will supervise both children to ensure that all practices are maintained respectful. There is one toilet and one wash hand basin designated for adult's use. There is also a deep wash hand basin provided in the care room. There are an adequate number of toilets and wash hand basins available on the premises for the proposed 17 children. The service is serviced by a public water supply and a private sewage system.

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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.*
- (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 floor space is available in the proposed playroom for the work, play and movement of pre-school children in the service.
- (2) Not applicable
- (3) It was proposed by the registered provider that the service would accommodate a maximum of 17 children attending sessional/ECCE service. The proposed playroom was measured at 35 metre squared and has adequate space for the proposed 17 children.
- (4) Not applicable
- (5) Not applicable