

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D:	TU2015CE149							
Name of Service	Tomorrow's Child Montessori School							
Address of Service:	2 Woodview Heights, Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare. V95 E6R3							
Email Address:	tomorrowschildmontessori@gmail.com							
Name of Registered Provider:	Cara O'Malley							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	P	Part-Time		Sessional	P		
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary			
Proposed change:	Change in Service Type: from Sessional to Full Day, Sessional Change in Hours of Operation: from 09:00-12:00 and 12:30-15:30 to 08:00-18:00 Change in Number of Staff Employed: from 1 to 3 staff							
Proposed Number of Children:	22 children attending on a sessional basis or 16 children attending on a full day care basis							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Change in Service Type: from Sessional to Full Day, Sessional Change in Hours of Operation: from 09:00-12:00 and 12:30-15:30 to 08:00-18:00 Change in Number of Staff Employed: from 1 to 3 staff Proposed number of children: 16 Full Day, 22 Sessional							
Registered change:	Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day & Sessional Change in hours of Operation from 09:00-12:00 and 12:30-15:30 to 08:00-18:00 Change in Number of Staff from 1 to 3 Staff Change in Number of Children from 22 to 22(Max 16 Full Day) Children							
Date of Inspection:	0	2	0	6	2	0	2	6
Inspection undertaken by:	J Hayes							
Title:	Early Years Inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Ennis Primary Care Centre Station Road, Ennis, Co. Clare							

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Rationale for Inspection: Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day & Sessional Service for 22(Max 16 Full Day) Children
Date of Registration	22 June 2026

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	This sessional service is operated from a playroom to the side of the registered provider's home. The service is currently registered for up to a maximum of 22 pre-school children to attend on a sessional basis. The children attending the service are aged between 2 years and 5 years. The service is currently operating a morning session from 09.00 to 12.00 and an afternoon session from 12.30 to 15.30 Monday to Friday.
Premises	The service accommodation at ground floor level comprises of one playroom, children's and adult sanitary facilities and an enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the premises.
Staffing	The registered provider works in the service on a daily basis and is the person in charge of operating the service assisted by two adults.
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

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	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

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:	(1)(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy. Both staff were named by the registered provider.
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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:	(1) The registered provider has committed to ensuring that there are an adequate number of adults working directly with the children on a daily basis and that 2 adults will be on the premises at all times during operation.
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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.*
- (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*

Requirement met:

(1)(a)

There are adequate facilities for the children to play indoors.

The playroom is of adequate size to accommodate tables and chairs for each child. areas of interest are set up which would facilitate independent play in small or large groups. Toys and resources are at a height that is accessible to all children.

(b)

There are sleep mats and bedlinen provided to ensure children have access to a quiet area in the room for rest if required.

(3)

The facilities for play outside are accessed to the rear of the playroom via a door from the back hallway. This area is secured with a high wall and timber railing, and the registered provider states this area will be supervised by the adults when in use. A selection of ride on toys, scooters, bicycles and balls is available for use in the outdoor area.

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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 service has a healthy eating policy which is shared with parents and a contract is in place with an external catering service for the provision of a hot meal delivered directly to the service on a daily basis. The HSE Environmental Health Officer has been contacted by the registered provider.

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:

- A fridge was provided in the care room for the safe storage of perishable food items.
- There was access to hot water, liquid hand soap and to paper towels at each of the children's wash hand basins.
- The hot water in the wash hand basins used by the children was recorded at a safe temperature of 40.5°C.
- There were lidded pedal operated bins available for the disposal of the used paper towels in the toilets and in the care room.
- The toys and equipment were free from pinch and crush points.
- Appropriate storage was provided for the sleep mats and the bedlinen.
- The window openings were at a high level that could not be accessed by the children.
- Cleaning agents were stored in a locked area out of the reach of children.
- The dedicated outdoor play area was secured to control access to and egress from this area.
- There were no ponds, pits or other hazardous areas in the outdoor area.
- The fire exit doors were unobstructed.

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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:

- (1)
Two adults working in the service have current First Aid Response certification.
- (2)(a)
There was a first aid box available in the care room, this was appropriately stocked and was accessible to the adults.
- (b)
The first aid box was available in the care room for use if required.

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:

- (1)(a)
The registered provider had a record of all fire drills carried out in the service. The fire assembly point was identified in the external area to the side of the building.
- (b)
A service record was available for the fire detection and firefighting equipment dated 15 January 2026.
- (4)
The procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were displayed at the entrance door.

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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 certificate with an expiry date of 27 March 2027 was available which indicated insurance cover for 22 children attending on a full day care basis.

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 service is operated within a care room at ground floor level located to the side of the dwelling house. There were no visual defects identified.
- (b)
The doors to the service were secured which ensured that no child could leave the service unattended and no unauthorised person could gain access to the premises. The designated outdoor space was secured by a wall and a gate.
- (c)
Natural and artificial lighting was provided in the care room. The artificial lighting was provided by covered fluorescent lights. The rooms were heated by a thermostatically controlled underfloor heating system. The care room temperature on inspection was recorded at 20.9°C which is within the appropriate limits. This would afford the children comfort when playing and doing activities. Natural ventilation was provided through openable windows throughout.
- (d)
The premises was clean, well maintained and appeared to be in a good state of repair. Cleaning schedules were in place.

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(e)

The service was equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities for the adults and children. There were two children's toilets and two wash hand basins provided. There was one toilet with one wash hand basin available for the staff. A nappy changing unit was also provided and available if required.

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) 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:

(1)

The registered provider has ensured adequate clear floor space is available to the children attending. The space available measured 39.55m².

(3) (a)

There was sufficient space provided to accommodate the proposed 22 children to attend on a sessional basis.

(b)

There was sufficient space provided to accommodate 16 children to attend on a full day care basis.