

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.:	TU2015CN059
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Name of Service	The Village Preschool and SAC Ballydurrough
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Address of Service:	Ballydurrow Community Centre, Ryefield, Virginia, Co. Cavan. A82 A306
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Email Address:	munterconnaughtpreschool@gmail.com
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Name of Registered Provider:	Celine Govern
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	☐	Part-Time	☐	Sessional	☐
	Drop-In	☐	Childminding	☐	Temporary	☐

Proposed change:	Change in Number of Children from 33 to 55 children. Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day, Part Time, Sessional. Change in Hours of Operating from 09:25-12:25 to 08:00-18:00 Change in Number of Staff Employed from 3 to 5 staff.
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Proposed Number of Children:	55
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Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Change in Number of Children that can be Accommodated from 33 to 55 children attending on a sessional basis, and a maximum of 48 children attending on a part time/full time basis (16 in small room and 32 in the big room). Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day, Part Time, Sessional. Change in Hours of Operating from 09:25-12:25 to 08:00-18:00. Change in Number of Staff Employed from 3 to 5 staff.
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Registered change:	Change in number of children from 33 to 55 (Max 48 Full Day Care/Part Time) children Change in Service Type from Sessional to Full Day, Part Time, Sessional Change in Hours of Operation from 09:25-12:25 to 08:00-18:00 Change in Number of Staff Employed from 3 to 5 staff
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Date of Inspection:	2	9	1	0	2	0	2	5
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Inspection undertaken by:	S Mc Kenna
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, Hampton Court, Cootehill Road, Drumalee, Co Cavan. H12 YY84
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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, Part Time & Sessional for 55(Max 48 Full Day/Part-Time) Children
Date of Registration	10 November 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 Village Preschool and SAC Ballydurrough was acquired as a private service by the registered provider in August 2025. The service operates within the local community

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	centre in a rural area of Ballydurrow Co. Cavan. The service proposes to provide sessional, part time and full day care to children aged 2 to 6 years, catering for a maximum of 55 children. The service partakes in the ECCE scheme Monday to Friday between 9am and 12 midday.
Premises	There are 2 care rooms used by the preschool children named small room and big room, and a sensory room is available for use on the first floor. Sanitary accommodation, a storeroom, an office and a kitchen are also available. There is a large outdoor play area to the back and side of the service. Car parking is provided to the side of the premises.
Staffing	There are 5 staff employed to work directly with preschool children. This does not include the registered provider, who is not service based. In addition, a bus driver is also employed for SAC collections/drop-offs.
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.
Additional Information	The service was found to be operating a full day care service prior to approval from the Registration Office.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge, staff and children 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.

The service has two named designated persons in charge.

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.

It is proposed that a total of up to 5 adults will work across the two preschool rooms.

The registered provider and persons in charge are aware of the requirements of this regulation in relation to adult: child ratios.

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—

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- (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

Requirement met:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

- (1) (a) Adequate and suitable facilities have been provided for the children to play indoors during the day. A range of play materials, play equipment and toys, along with well-resourced designated interest areas are available in each of the 2 preschool rooms.
- (b) Adequate and suitable facilities are provided for the children to rest and sleep. Stackable beds are set up in the small room for children aged over 2 years who require a sleep. Individual bed linen is supplied by the service.
- There are cosy areas in each of the two rooms to include soft child sized seats and cushions.
- (3)
- There is a large outdoor area located at the front and sides of the service, which is secured by walls, fencing and padlock-coded gates. There are three surfaced areas; a concreted area which was partially covered allows for play outdoors during heavy rainfall. The grassed area has a digging area with materials, a wooden play kitchen, wall mounted chalkboards and mirrors. A soft ground surfaced play area to include climbing structures with slides, swings and balance beams was also available for children's use.
- The service operates an outdoor play-based curriculum, spending most of their day in the outdoor areas.

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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 service provides all breakfast, snacks and meals to the children in attendance.

Where requested children can take in their own snack or dinner items from home. The children have access to their drinking bottles throughout the day. A fridge is available in the small room for the storage of perishable food items. The hot meals are purchased from a catering company and heated on site daily for the children.

A four menu is in operation, which demonstrates a variety of breakfasts, snacks and dinner options that were adequate, suitable and nutritious for children.

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 entrance gates into the service are locked by coded padlocks with access codes known only to staff. Upon the parent/carers arrival they ring a bell at the main entrance gate, and the children are taken to the gate for collection times. This system prevents children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised access.
- The emergency exit doors were unobstructed throughout the inspection.
- There is provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste throughout the service, including the provision of a suitable nappy bin.
- Individual single use paper towels were provided for handwashing purposes.

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- Cleaning schedules are available for the service. Cleaning materials were stored out of reach of children. The service is presented in a clean and hygienic manner throughout.
- Risk assessment records are in place and completed up to date.

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 registered provider has ensured that there are three adults with up to date First Aid Responder (FAR) training certificates rostered to work on the premises.

(2) (a) (b) An adequately stocked first aid box is provided in the kitchen and is available to the children at all times.

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.

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Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1) (a) The registered provider demonstrated that a template to record fire drills is available, and fire drills are conducted monthly. The most recent fire drill was carried out on 23 October 2025. (b) There is a record available relating to the number and type of firefighting equipment. The most recent service of the firefighting equipment carried out on 09 June 2025, and the fire detection and alarm system were carried out on 21 March 2025. (4) The procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were displayed throughout the service.
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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. An insurance quote was provided which covers a maximum of 55 preschool children in attendance on a Full Day Care basis and expires on the 27/03/2026. The registered provider will ensure that insurance will be in place once Tusla has confirmed the registration status for the increase in children in the service.
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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) The person in charge confirmed that they had no knowledge of any structural defects.

(b) The service is adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry.

(c) The service is adequately lit and heated. The lighting is provided by a mixture of natural light leading from large windows, which were supplemented with fluorescent ceiling lights, which were fitted with protective covers. The service is heated by electric heaters and oil central heating. The preschool rooms were maintained at a temperature of 22.4°C.

The care rooms are ventilated by openable windows.

Sanitary areas were ventilated by openable windows and mechanical ventilation.

(d) Cleaning schedules were available and in place, and the premises is maintained in a clean condition.

(e) The children's sanitary facilities in the service were equipped with a total of 5 toilets and 5 wash hand basins, and 1 nappy changing unit.

Thermostatically controlled hot and cold running water is available in all of the hand-washing sinks.

There is one toilet designated for staff.

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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.*

Requirement met:

- (1) The requirement has been met.
- Adequate, clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of 55 children within the two preschool care rooms.
- (2) The following floor space is available.
- The Small room is 37m².
 - The Big room is 76m².