

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015DR161

Name of Service Cherry Blossom Grove Montessori

Address of Service: 23 Corbawn Drive, Shankill, Co Dublin

Email Address: suzanne.billings@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Suzanne Widger

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

Proposed change: The service applied to change from a sessional service (9am-12.30pm) to a part time service (9am-1.30pm).

Proposed Number of Children: 22

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change to part time service which can accommodate a maximum of 19 children attending part time and can continue to accommodate 22 children while sessional and part time care are being provided simultaneously.

Registered change: Change in service type from Sessional to Part Time & Sessional for 22 Children (Max 19 Part Time)
Change in hours of operation from 09:00 – 12:30 to 09:00 – 13:30

Date of Inspection: 2 0 0 2 2 0 2 3

Inspection undertaken by: Linda Magee

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: 2nd Floor, Carysfort House, Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Part Time / Sessional Service for 22 Children (Max 19 Part Time)
Date of Registration	14 th March 2023

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 private childcare service was established in 2013 by the current registered provider. A sessional service is provided for children aged between 2 years and six months and 6 years of age. The service is provided between 9am – 12.30pm Monday to Friday.
Premises	This service is located in a residential area in Shankill, Co Dublin. The service is attached to the home of the registered provider and has a separate entrance. There are two preschool rooms in the service and an outdoor area to the front of the premises.
Staffing	There are four members of staff including the registered provider working in the service. All of whom work directly with the children.
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, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 registered provider has ensured that there is a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise if 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.

(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) There are an adequate number of adults working with the children attending the service at present. The registered provider has an adequate number of adults available to work with the additional children in the preschool rooms.

(8)(b) Not applicable as this is not a childminding service.

(c) Not applicable as this is not a sessional service that operates single handedly.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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—*
- (c) *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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service consists of two rooms which are currently in use for pre-school children. The rooms are bright and spacious and laid out to cater for the age range of children that will be attending in each room.

(1)(b) Suitable rest areas have been provided in the pre-school rooms. Stackable beds with separate bedlinen are available for the children if they need to sleep.

(2)(b) The service has access to a suitable and safe large outdoor play area to the front of the preschool. This has an artificial grass surfacing and a nature area which was made up of bark. Part of the outdoor area was enclosed. There were no ponds, pits or other hazards observed in the outdoor areas.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:	This requirement has been met. The children will bring in two meals and a snack from home which will be stored in the fridge in the preschool room.
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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 requirement has been met. External doors were secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the pre-school. The outdoor area was secured. There was provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste. Cleaning schedules were in place.
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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) There was evidence that two members of staff were trained as First Aid Responders.

(2)(a) A suitably equipped first aid box was provided. It was positioned in an easily accessible and conspicuous position in the main office of the preschool.

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 has been met.

(1)(a) There was evidence that fire drills are practised monthly in the service.

(1)(b) There was a record available relating to the number, type and maintenance of fire-fighting equipment and for the smoke detection system for the premises.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire were displayed. The fire assembly point was identified.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

Requirement met:

There was evidence of a quotation for insurance cover from sessional to parttime, for 22 children. This quotation is valid from 09/02/2023 – 28/03/2023. 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.

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 service is located in two preschool rooms the ground floor. The service is attached to the home of the registered provider and has a separate entrance.
- (b) There is one point of entry to the childcare service; both the gate and the door are secured and access is controlled from the service. The outdoor area is secured to prevent a child leaving the area unsupervised.
- (c) The premises benefits from high levels of natural light via windows in the pre-school room. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from down lights. There is a gas heating system in each preschool room. Windows in the pre-school room can be opened. There is a mechanical ventilation system in the sanitary area.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	(d) The service was clean and well maintained and cleaning schedules are in place. (e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities have been provided in the service. There are two toilets, one nappy changing unit and three wash hand basins designated for children's use. There is a separate toilet and wash hand basin designated for use by staff. Thermostatically controlled hot water was available and did not exceed 43°C.
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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. Currently the service is registered for a sessional service for 22 children from 9am – 12.30pm. The registered provider has applied to change to a part time service (9am-1.30pm). There is clear floor space to accommodate 19 children during the part time
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

service, however the registered provider only intends to facilitate a maximum of 16 children between 12.30-1.30.

(1) Adequate clear floor space is available for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.

(2) The minimum amount of clear floor space for children attending a part time service is 2.35 square metres (2–3-year-old children) and 2.3 square metres (3–6-year-old children) or 1.818 square metres when sessional and part time care are running contemporaneously.

The clear floor space available in pre-school room 1 is 15.70 square metres and in preschool room 2 is 29.35 square metres. The total is 45.05 square metres. Clear floor space is available for the work, play and movement to accommodate the number of children that the registered provider proposes to accommodate based on the age range of children attending on a sessional/ parttime basis.