

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



|                                                 |                                                                                                                                      |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Tusla I.D:</b>                               | TU2015DS157                                                                                                                          |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Name of Service</b>                          | Cappaghmore Playschool                                                                                                               |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Address of Service:</b>                      | 58 Cappaghmore, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.                                                                                               |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Email Address:</b>                           | playschool58@gmail.com                                                                                                               |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>             | Karen Ryan                                                                                                                           |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>                | <b>Full Day Care</b>                                                                                                                 |   | <b>Part-Time</b>    |   | <b>Sessional</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |   |   |
|                                                 | <b>Drop-In</b>                                                                                                                       |   | <b>Childminding</b> |   | <b>Temporary</b> |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Proposed change:</b>                         | Increase number of children service can accommodate from 16 to 19.                                                                   |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>             | 19                                                                                                                                   |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Recommended Change Following Inspection:</b> | Approve increase to 19 children                                                                                                      |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Registered change:</b>                       | Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 16 to 19.                                                                 |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Date of Inspection:</b>                      | 1                                                                                                                                    | 8 | 1                   | 0 | 2                | 0                                   | 2 | 3 |
| <b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>                | E. Mulhern                                                                                                                           |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Title:</b>                                   | Early Years Inspector                                                                                                                |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |
| <b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>  | Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla Child and Family Agency,<br>7 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Dublin 8. |   |                     |   |                  |                                     |   |   |

|                                        |
|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Rationale for Inspection:</b>       |
| <b>Proposed Change of Circumstance</b> |

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

|                             |                                              |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Registration Status:</b> | Registered Sessional Service for 19 Children |
| <b>Date of Registration</b> | 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023                |

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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).

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description of Service</b> | Cappaghmore Playschool is a sessional, early years service for children aged from 2 years and 8 months to 6 years. The service is open from 9am to 12pm, Monday to Friday for 38 weeks per year. At the time of inspection, the service was registered to accommodate 16 children. The registered provider proposes to increase the number of children attending to 19.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Premises</b>               | The service operates from three rooms on the ground floor of the registered provider's home. An outdoor area is available to the rear.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Staffing</b>               | There are three staff members employed to work directly with the children including the registered provider.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Methodology</b>            | <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 the following 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 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.</p> |
| <b>Acknowledgements</b>       | The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the children, registered provider and staff member 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.

The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise.

### 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) Three staff members are employed to work in the service including the registered provider. Two staff members work five days per week and one staff member works three days per week. The registered provider told the inspector that if the service is approved to accommodate 19 children the third staff member will be employed to work five days per week.

# 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.*
- (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.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

(a) The rooms were laid out with play materials suitable and appropriate to the number and age of children proposed to attend. These included designated interest areas, for example a hairdressing area, art and crafts area and a construction area. The rooms had open shelves with an assortment of resources for various types of play and learning. These included sensory items, puzzles, books, and small-world toys. The outdoor area was equipped with ride-on toys and a station for water and sand play.

(b) An area was available with matting and cushions for children to rest or take a break from activities.

(4) The service had a suitable, safe, enclosed outdoor area at the rear of the premises which had an all-weather surface with play equipment. All equipment was in good condition and the area was free from hazards.

# 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:

The requirement has been met.  
The service had a healthy eating policy. All children bring their lunch/snacks and drinks from home. A fridge was available for the storage of perishable foods.

### 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.  
Appropriate measures had been taken to provide for the health, safety and welfare of children as outlined in the examples below.

#### General Safety

- Entrances were secured to prevent unauthorized access.
- Emergency doors were unobstructed to allow for the timely evacuation of children in the event of a fire.
- The kitchen was inaccessible to children.
- Cleaning agents were stored out of reach of children.
- Cables and cords were secured out of reach of children.
- Tall, heavy furniture was secured to prevent tipping.
- Hot water was thermostatically controlled to prevent scalding injuries and did not exceed 43° Celsius.
- Radiators were thermostatically controlled to prevent burn injuries and did not exceed 50°C.

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|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Infection Control</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The premises and equipment were appropriately maintained and clean. Cleaning checklists were available and completed.</li> <li>Staff demonstrated a good understanding of measures to control the spread of infection including handwashing, cleaning, and exclusion criteria.</li> <li>Sanitary facilities were equipped with warm water, liquid soap, and paper towels to support handwashing.</li> <li>Waste was managed appropriately with the use of pedal operated lidded bins.</li> </ul> |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### 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) Two staff members who were rostered to be present at all times held current certificates in first aid for children.

(2)

- (a) Suitably equipped first aid boxes were stored conspicuously within reach of adults.
- (b) The first aid boxes were available for use within the premises.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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) Records were available of fire drills carried out in the service. The most recent record was dated 4 October 2023.  
 (b) The service had a certificate regarding the maintenance of the firefighting equipment dated 14 February 2023 and the smoke detection system dated 4 August 2023.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in a conspicuous position.

### 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.  
 A certificate of insurance was available for 20 children dated from 28 March 2023 until 27 March 2024.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### 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 premises appeared to be in good condition. The registered provider confirmed that there were no known issues with the structure of the premises.

(b) The inspector observed the premises to be safe and secure.

(c) The service had a good level of natural lighting with artificial lighting available if required. A working gas central heating system was available. Windows could be opened to provide natural ventilation. Mechanical ventilation was available in the sanitary areas. The room temperatures were recorded at 20° Celsius.

(d) The premises and equipment were well maintained and clean. Cleaning schedules were complete and cleaning equipment was available for use by staff.

(e) Sanitary facilities were available on the same level as the children's rooms. These consisted of two toilets and two wash-hand basins. Wash-hand basins were equipped with warm water, liquid soap, and paper towels. Separate sanitary facilities were available 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.*
- (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) & (3) The registered provider proposes to increase the number of children attending on a sessional basis from 16 to 19. The provider proposes to accommodate the children across three rooms on the ground floor of the premises. The rooms were measured and there was sufficient clear floor space to accommodate the proposed number of children in respect of their age range.